

Faith Pivots

Part 1: Who's the Center?

Tonight's Key Passage: John 15:1-6

- **❖ What makes pivoting possible is what you are pivoting on** − John 15:1-6
 - The expectation of being connected John 15:2
 - ➤ Lack of productivity could indicate that you are not as connected as you think John 15:2; Mat. 15: 13
 - ➤ The importance of being connected John 15:4
 - Being connected brings about change
 - Pruning John 15:2, 3
 - God uses the Word to prune us − 2 Tim. 3:16-17; John 17:17
 - ♦ It is the pruning that identifies our connection Heb. 12:6-7; Prov. 12:1; Pro. 15:32
 - The purpose of the pruning John 15:2; Prov. 25:4; Isa. 1:21-22 (KJV & MSG); 2 Tim.
 2:20-22
 - Pruning involves more than just person but also processes and systems Luke 5:33-39; Eph. 4:22-24; Isa. 43:19; Luke 13:6-9 (KJV & MSG)
 - ➤ If we are connected, God expects more John 15:2; Mat. 13:12 (MSG)

When God is your constant, you can pivot on Him

- He does not change— Mal. 3:6; Heb. 13:8; Psa. 119:89
- He changes us Eph. 1:11; Eze. 36:26; 1 Cor. 6:9-11; Phil. 1:6; Col. 3:10; 1 John 3:2-3
- We fail because we make everything about us:
 - ➤ How I feel
 - ➤ What I want
 - What I'm comfortable with
 - ➤ What I like
 - But what does Scripture say?
 - Exo. 3:4-14; 4:13-16: Moses excuses
 - I'm not good enough vs. 11
 - I don't know enough vs. 14
 - How the people see me 4:1 (3:18; 4:2-9)
 - I don't talk well 4:10
 - I don't want to 4:13
 - Jeremiah1:7
 - Mat. 16:24-26

Closing scripture: Colossians 1:18



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Part 2: No More Majoring in the Minor

Tonight's Key Passage: 2 Timothy 2

- Everything in your life doesn't and shouldn't have the same weight -
 - > The importance of an item is often determined by the value ascribed to it
 - > We tend to load up on the minor instead of focusing on the major
- ❖ When we know our value, it enables us to make the faith pivots that God is leading us to make
- You can not get trapped in the minor when God is leading you into the major

Signs of majoring in the minor:

- Constant complaining Phil. 2:14-16; Num. 11:1-6; James 4:1-3
- Missed assignments James 4:17
- Delayed obedience Psa 119:60
- ❖ Greed Luke 12:15
- Wrong Priorities Mat 16:26
- Focusing on Abilities and Ignoring Gifts and Anointing –
- Religious practice but no depth or conviction Mat. 23:23
- ❖ Mat. 7:6
- ❖ Poor perspective on your trials 2 Cor. 4:7

What are some "Majors"?

- In terms of faith:
 - > Faith in God Heb. 11:1, 6
 - ➤ The Power of the Gospel 1 Cor. 15:1-4
 - > The Trinity Mat. 28:19; Gen. 1:26
 - ➤ We are saved by Grace Eph. 2:8-0
 - > Jesus is the Way John 14:6; Acts 4:12
 - ➤ The virgin birth Mat. 1:18-25
 - > Jesus died for our sins Rom. 5:8; 1 Pet. 3:18
 - ➤ Jesus rose from the dead 1 Cor. 15:14; Rom. 10:9-10
- In your life:
 - Your health (mentally, spiritually and physically)
 - > Your family
 - Your legacy



How do I make this pivot?

- ❖ Know that your worth comes from God 2 Tim. 2:1
- ❖ Make sure those you are depositing into can handle your deposits 2 Tim. 2:2
- ❖ Stay focused on the mission 2 Tim. 2:3-7
 - ➤ Realize that mistakes and missteps will come Psa. 37:23-24
- ❖ In the midst of everything, rehearse your purpose 2 Tim. 2:7-10
- ❖ Stay the course 2 Tim. 2:10-13
- ❖ Learn to let the petty go 2 Tim. 2:14 (MSG), 16-17
- ❖ Study 2 Tim. 2:15; 1 Thes. 4:11(KJV & MSG)



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Part 3: Pivoting to Progress

Tonight's Key Passage: Romans 12:11

- ❖ Most of us profess to want better in life yet don't always know what better is
 - Is it just a bigger house? Hag. 1:4; Deu. 8:11-18
 - ➤ Is it a bigger bank accounts and possessions? Luke 12:15-21
 - ➤ Is it more attention? Luke 22:24-30; Mat. 23:11-12
 - ➤ Is it a position or standing among people? Mat. 23:1-12, 15; contrast with Pro. 31:23
- ❖ Your better may not be my better just as your giftings may not be mine 1 Cor. 12:4-11; Mat. 25:14-30
- ❖ Better gets you more aligned with God's Purpose 3 John 2
- ❖ It is abnormal when we don't progress 3 John 2
- ❖ You can not pivot to progress and hold on to backwards thinking Num. 11:1-6
 - Backwards thinking will have you:
 - Thinking progress is killing you Exo. 16:1-3
 - Herding corruptible eventual trash instead of seeking Kingdom treasures Luke 12:16-21;
 1 Pet. 1:18-20
 - Fighting your deliverer and celebrating your oppressor Num. 16
 - Stuck in a cycle of spiritual depravity and physical poverty Jer. 7:24 (KJV & MSG); 15:6
 - Remembering and focusing on the wrong things Phil. 3:12-14; 1 Cor. 6:11-13
 - Unfit for the kingdom of God Luke 9:62
 - Miss God's plan and timing for yourself and those around you Ecc. 3:1-11
 - Stuck Gen. 19:26
 - Looking a sugar daddy or momma instead of working Kingdom principles Deut. 8:18;
 Pro. 12:11; 13:4

HOW TO PIVOT TO PROGRESS

- ❖ Make your walk with God personal between you and Him Rev. 3:20; Rev. 1:1;
 - Personal revelation will sustain you through public devastation Heb. 11:7
 - You can't afford to wait for the crowd to understand Mat. 26:6-13
- Reset your mind Col. 3:1-2; Rom. 12:2
- Change your confessions Pro. 18:4, 21; James 3:5; Phil. 4:8
 - Not I can't but I can Phil. 4:13
 - Not I'm lacking but God's provision Phil. 4:19
 - ➤ Not bondage but liberty 2 Cor. 3:17
 - Not loneliness but relationship Heb. 13:5
 - ➤ Not failure but forgiveness and restoration Psa. 37:23-24; Psa. 73:26



Part 3: Pivoting to Progress (continued)

Moving from the dead to life...

You must pivot from dead works

- ➤ It is fundamental that we know move from dead works Heb. 6:1
- > Dead works are closely tied to self-righteousness Pro. 14:12; Pr. 16:25; Rom. 10:3
 - When we feel that our way is fine, we cannot progress.
- Dead works are signs of dead lives Eph. 2:5
 - Dead thinking Eph. 2:5
- > You cannot serve the living God with a dead conscience Heb. 9:14

❖ You must pivot from dead actions

- ➤ What really matters? John 13:8-11
- ➤ What's at the heart of your actions determines whether its dead 2 Cor. 9:7; Mat. 6:1
- No more going through the motions in worship Mat. 15:1-9 (vs. 9 in KJV and MSG)
- No more pretense Mat. 23:14

❖ You must pivot from dead things

- ➤ Dead things can't save you 1 Pet. 1:18; Eph. 2:5-10
- Must pivot from weight of sin Heb. 12:1
- Must pivot from dead places Eph. 5:8-13; Eph. 4:27-30; 2 Tim. 2:21
- ➤ Must pivot from dead spaces Eph. 5:14-17; Mat. 16:26
- ➤ Must pivot from dead relationships Isa. 43:18-19; 2 Cor. 6:14-18

→ STOP TRYING TO CARRY YOUR OPPRESSOR TO YOUR PROMISE

Activating the Power Within – Ephesians 3:14-21

- ❖ Vs. 16: He would grant you according to the riches of His glory Phil. 4:19
 - > To be strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man Col. 1:11-12; Rom. 7:22
- Vs. 17: That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith John 14:23; 1 John 4:7; Rev. 3:20
 - Are you rooted and grounded in love? Col. 1:23; Eph. 2:4; 1 Cor. 13:1-13
- Vs. 18: If you only knew: Eph. 1:18; Lam. 3:22-23
 - The breadth, length and depth and height Rom. 8:35-39
 - Width John 3:16; Length Jer. 31:3; Psa. 103:12; Depth Phil. 2:7-8; Height Eph. 2:6
- ❖ Vs. 19: And to know the love of Christ Psa. 86:5
 - ➤ How can you be filled with all the fullness without knowing Christ's Love? Eph. 1:23; 1 John 3:14; 1 John 4:7-20
- Vs. 20: The Doxology: Now unto Him that is able Rom. 16:25; Isa. 59:1; Psalm 147:4-5; 1 Cor. 4:20
 - ➤ Able to do exceeding abundantly 1 Tim. 1:14; Isa. 55:7; John 10:10
 - According to the power Eph. 3:7; Eph. 1:19; Col. 1:29
 - ...power that worketh in us Rom. 8:5-14
- Vs. 21: Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout ages...Rom. 11:36



Part 4: Pivoting to Service

Why Not Me?

- ❖ God is the One who chooses us Rom. 8:30
 - Called: kaleo:1) to call aloud, utter in a loud voice; to invite 2) to give a name to Thayer's Greek Definitions
 - Shepherds call their flocks Luke 19:13; John 10:3
 - The One who calls has the authority to call Exo. 33:12-19; Rom. 9:17-18
 - > Deut. 14:2; Eph. 2:10
- ❖ God is the One who enables us Luke 10:19; 2 Cor. 9:8; 1 Tim. 1:12; Phil. 4:13
- ❖ God is the One who equips us John 17:17; Eph. 3:20-21; 1 Cor. 1:7; Heb. 13:20-21
- ❖ God is the One who affirms us Psa. 23; Deut. 31:8; Isa. 40:27-31
- ❖ God is the One who redeems us Eph. 1:7; Tit. 2:14; Col. 1:9-14
- ❖ God is not intimidated by your past Isa. 43:18, 25
- ❖ God is not turned away because of your weakness 2 Cor. 12:9-10

The One thing in the way of your pivoting to serve:

Romans 8:31-39 (key vs. 38)

Mat. 6:24

Rom. 1:9



Part 4: Pivoting to Service (continued) Things that take us out of service

Opposition

- > There is a difference between opposition and constructive feedback
 - Pride will cause you to confuse support with opposition
- Ways we empower our opposition:
 - By entertaining them Phil. 3:8; Eph. 4:27; Neh. 2:20
 - By promoting them Luke 4:35
 - Promote: 1. further the progress of (something, especially a cause, venture, or aim); support or actively encourage. 2. advance or raise (someone) to a higher position or rank. Source: Oxford Languages
 - By underestimating them 2 Corinthians 2:10-11; 1 Pet. 5:8; Eph. 6:11-18
 - By being unprepared for them 2 Chr. 20:15-17
 - By gratifying them Rom. 12:17-21; 2 Cor. 10:4

An "It doesn't take all of that spirit" that says:

- You don't really have to serve 1 Pet. 4:10-11; Gal. 6:10
- You don't have to go to church Heb. 10:19-27; Eph. 4:12; Heb. 13:17
- ➤ They just want to use you Col. 3:23-24
- It's not gonna matter 1 Cor. 15:58

Discouragement

God hears and will deliver you – Psa. 34:17-19; Isa. 41:10; 1 Pet. 1:3-9 (MSG)

Lost Focus

- > Taking focus from Christ Gal. 5:7; Pro. 16:3; Isa. 26:3
- Taking focus off your assignment and on to others –
- ➤ An unfocused mind is more susceptible to the tricks of the enemy 1 Pet. 5:8

❖ Lack of Support

- > 3 Types of support we all need in ministry:
 - Spiritual
 - Physical
 - Emotional



Part 5: Pivoting to Financial Health

5 Keys to Financial Health

- Knowledge
 - Know your Source GOD Luke 16:10
 - > Destruction because of a lack of knowledge can be caused by
 - Lack of awareness
 - Biggest tricks of the enemy is to hide truth in front of you
 - ♦ What are you reading and researching? Pro. 18:15
 - ♦ What are you spending your idle time on?
 - ♦ Are you seeking the wisdom of God? James 1:5; Pro. 1:5
 - ♦ What generational barriers are you allowing to operate in your finances?
 - Lack of reception Hosea 4:6
 - What truths are you rejecting while believing the lies of the enemy? John 8:32
 - ♦ Is tithing biblical? Mal. 3:8-10; Mat. 23:23
 - ♦ Is poverty a sign of deeper walk with Christ? 1 Tim. 6:6-10; Mat. 25:21
 - ♦ Does the church just want my money?
 - ♦ Is there accountability for God's funds?
 - Are you teachable? Pro. 1:7
 - Do you know how to:
 - ♦ Make a budget? Hab 2:2; 1 Tim 3:5; Pro 6:6-8, 21:5, 21, 20, 23:23, 24:3-4
 - ♦ Invest? Mat. 25:14-30
 - ♦ Sow? 2 Cor. 9:6
 - ♦ Save? Pro. 13:11
 - ♦ Plan? Luke 14:28-30
 - Bad information is as bad if not worse than no information Pro. 15:14;
 - You must know who you are as a Kingdom citizen d
 - Low self esteem can lead to projecting wealth when you are actually broke
 - When you know who you are, you can be content where God has you Phil. 4:11-13; 1 Tim. 6:6-12



Faithfulness as a Steward

YOU MUST BE FAITHFUL TO GOD ABOVE ALL THINGS AND NOT MERELY FAITHFUL TO A PROCESS

- Your heart can be in the wrong place while your dollars are in the right place and you won't prosper 2 Cor. 9:6-8
- We must place Kingdom principles and our witness before mere dollars Mat. 6:24-25
- Stewards must be Faithful
- "...It is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful." 1 Cor. 4:2, KJV
 - A steward <u>never owned</u> the property or resource he dealt with; he simply managed them for his master and had to manage them faithfully. (Psa 24:1)
 - Steward Should Follow God's Financial Plan (Martin Thielen: God Lessons from the Great Recession: Preaching in the Context of a Financial Downturn)
 - Earn Ethically (Hab 2:6-9; Pro 11:1)
 - Resist Greed (Ecc 5:10; 1 Tim 6:9-10) also Luke 12:15
 - Spend modestly (1Tim 6:6-8; Heb 13:5)
 - Save Diligently (Pro 21:20; Gen 41:35-36)
 - Give Generously (Pro 3:9; Pro 11:24-25; Act 20:35; 1 Tim 6:18)

Generosity –

- What does the Word say about generosity? Deut. 15:7-8
- ➤ God keeps covenant with the generous Psa. 41:1-3
- Generosity is reciprocated Luke 6:37-38
- Generosity should be cast abroad Pro. 11:24-25
- > Selfishness is an enemy of generosity Psa. 119:36
- ➤ You don't need seed if you are not going to sow 2 Cor. 9:10

Obedience –

- ➤ We are called to be above and not beneath Deut. 28:13
- ➤ We obey because we love God John 14:15
- You do not need to apologize for God rewarding your obedience in front of others Mat. 6:3-4
- PAY YOUR TAXES Rom. 13:7-8

Spiritual Health –

- ➤ Where is your soul? 3 John 2
- ➤ Where are your real treasures being stored? Mat. 6:19-21
- Don't get distracted by your financial status Rev. 3:17



More points to ponder concerning Financial Health

God's Word prospers where He sends it – Isa. 55:11

- ➤ That's why it's so important to operate financially in accordance with the Word of God Mat. 6:33; 3 John 1:2; Gal. 6:9; Pro. 19:17; Pro. 28:22
- God's blessings aren't shady Pro. 10:22; James 1:17

Financial Health is not measured in mere dollars and cents

- Are you able and willing to leave what God is calling you away from?
 - God will often enable you in areas to prepare you for what He has called you to do
 - Mat. 4:19: Fishers of men
 - Mat. 9:9: The calling of a tax collector

Are you able to pursue your calling?

Where are your treasures? Luke 12:34

Are you preparing an inheritance? Pro. 13:22

- Of spiritual impartation 2 Tim. 1:5; Pro. 22:6; Deut. 6:5-9
 - Have you taught your seed how to sow and reap? Gen. 8:22; Gal. 6:7; 2 Cor. 9:6
- Of knowledge & wisdom Pro. 4:6-7; Pro. 19:20
- Of work ethic Col. 3:23-24; Pro. 16:3
- Of enablement and empowerment Deut. 3:28



Part 6: Pivoting to Order

Chaos

- ❖ Definition: 1.a. a state of utter confusion; b: a confused mass or mixture
- ❖ God is not the author of Chaos or confusion 1 Cor. 14:26-33
- Chaos can indicate a void, emptiness or darkness requires filling Gen. 1:1-3
- ❖ The presence of chaos is an indicator of the need for God Pro. 11:14

Order

- ❖ God created us to operate in order 1 Cor. 1:15-19; 1 Cor. 14:40
- Structure:
 - The world's structure or God's Rom. 12:2; Mat. 6:33
 - Structures require levels
 - What are you building on? Eph. 2:19-22; Mat. 7: 24-27
 - We run into problems when we don't realize our place in the structure Eph. 1:22; Col.
 1:18
 - Structures can fall when they don't follow the Engineer –
- ❖ There is an order to how the blessings flow Psa. 133; Psa. 1; Mal. 3:10
- ❖ There is an order in how we worship and exercise gifts 1 Cor. 14:26-32
 - ➤ There is an order in how prophetic giftings flow 1 Cor. 14:32
- ❖ There is an order in the family Col. 3:18-21; 1 Tim. 2:1-2; 1 Tim. 3:4; Eph. 6:1-5
- ❖ There is an order in the House of God − 1 Cor. 7:17; 1 Cor. 14:23; Tit. 1:5; Acts 20:28; Acts 13:2; Heb. 13:17

SOME QUESTIONS AND EXAMPLES FOR DISCUSSION IS THIS ORDER OR NOT?

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*	Children going to spend night at friend's house without discussing with parents
*	Worker taking the day off without informing the boss
*	Spouse taking money you gave to go pay power bill and going to buy themselves clothing
*	Minister preaching at another ministry without discussing with their Pastor
	Ministry worker not showing up for assignment and not informing leader
	Believer taking tithe and offering and spending on extra clothing



Part 6: Pivoting to Order (continued)

The Blessing of Ordered Steps

- ❖ God sustains you even when you stumble Psa. 37:23-24; Psa. 121:3
- ❖ God does not hold back the blessing from you Psa. 84:11; Jos. 1:3
- You don't have to walk alone Psa. 32:8

The Attack on Unity

- ❖ The enemy doesn't mind you walking with God so long as you aren't in sync with God Psa. 119:133
- Notice that God commands a blessing over your life when we operate in sync with each other and Him Psa. 133:3
- The attack on unity in the Body of Christ is really an attack on order John 17:20-23
- ❖ The enemy knows that great things can be accomplished when we operate in order − Neh. 4:1-13 (vs. 6)
- ❖ When we leave our assignment, we leave order Jos. 13:33; Deut. 18:1-8; Num. 18: 21-26; 1 Tim. 5:22-24

Order Must be Taught

- ❖ God sustains you even when you stumble Psa. 37:23-24; Psa. 121:3
- ❖ Authority comes from God Rom. 13:1-2

Order in Discipleship

- Love must come first
 - If we truly want to win souls, we must love
 - Are you concerned about where they are?
 - Are you sharing the truth with them in love?
- ❖ We must plant before we water 1 Cor. 3:6-8
- We cannot afford to get in front of God when ministering to others

SOME QUESTIONS AND EXAMPLES FOR DISCUSSION IS THIS ORDER OR NOT?

*	A ministry is heavily involved in assisting those outside of the fellowship but consistently refuses to
	assist those in the fellowship who are in need. Read Gal. 6:10

*	A believer has a parent in need but does not help them so he can give more to another ministry.
	Martk 7:10



Part 7: Pivoting My Mind

The Power of Your Thinking

- ❖ Your thoughts about yourself establish you Pro. 23:7
- ❖ Your thoughts control your mouth Luke 6:45; Pro. 4:23

The Power of How You See Yourself

❖ How you see yourself can determine how others see you – Num. 13:33

What should I set my mind on?

- ❖ High things Col. 3:2
- Spiritual things Rom. 8:5-6
- How to answer all things from a God perspective Pro. 15:28 (KJV, MSG)

The Power of How I Believe God Sees Me

- ❖ What is He thinking concerning you Jer. 29:11
- ❖ What does He wants us to have while still here in the earth? John 14:27
- ❖ You can learn from what He has given you 2 Tim. 1:7
- ❖ Know what God wants for you Deut. 30:19

Setting my mind in agreement with God

IT CAN'T BE YOUR WILL ANY LONGER - Luke 22:42, John 18:37

- → OBEDIENCE IS WHERE YOUR WILL MEETS GOD AND SURRENDERS (P.A. Harvin)
- → AGREEMENT IS WHERE HIS WILL BECOMES YOURS (P.A. Harvin) John 6:38

Submitting My Mind to Christ – HOW?

- Do you know what are your "ways"?
 - ➤ Deut. 11:22 deh'-rek: a road (as trodden); figuratively a course of life or mode of action, often adverbially: along, away, because of, + by, conversation, custom (Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionary)
 - ➤ Psa. 37:4-6 my course must become His course
 - ➤ James 1:8 hod-os': a road; by implication a progress (the route, act or distance); figuratively a mode or means: journey, (high-) way.
 - Mat. 6:33; Rom. 14:17; 1 Cor. 4:20
- I must learn that the battle is for my mind
 - ➤ Not a fleshly battle 2 Cor. 10:1-4
 - What is a stronghold? 2 Cor. 10:5; Eph. 6:14-17
- You must learn to set your will
 - Psa. 20:7; Psa. 4:8; Psa. 5:3,7; Psa. 7:17; Psa. 34:1



- I must learn to arrest every thought
 - Examination Heb. 4:12; 2 Cor. 13:5; Lam. 3:40; Psa. 119:59
 - ➤ Motivation James 4:3; Psa. 1
 - > Activation James 1:20; Phil 1:1-11
- Identify causes of mind drifts
 - Idleness Acts 17:21; Ecc. 10:18; Pro. 10:5
 - Unconfessed Sin Prov. 28:13;
 - Unfulfillment Num. 14:35; Job 7:1-2; Isa. 55:1-3; Jer. 14:3; Hag. 1:5-6
 - Deception 1 Cor. 4:7-21
 - Deception from others
 - ➤ Bitterness and anger Eph. 4:31-32
 - > Anxiety Phil. 4:6-7

THE MIND PIVOT - Phil. 3:12-14

- ❖ I'm not there yet (vs. 12)
- ❖ I set myself in the direction I need to go (vs. 12)
- I forget what I left behind (vs. 13)
- I reach for what I'm focused on (vs. 13)
- ❖ I press, or push in toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus (vs. 14)



Part 8: The Pivot Strategy

Words to Look Up and Meditate On

Refreshing, Revival, Restoration, Rekindling, Replenishing, Innovate

Strategy requires Structure

- What systems are lacking around you that are preventing you from realizing the fullness of your calling and purpose?
 - People
 - Resources
 - Motivation
 - Organization
 - Accountability

A Strategic Pivot means a change in process but not a change in promise or vision.

- Read Hebrews 1:1
 - ➤ What did God do with the message?
 - ➤ Why?
- Read Mat. 5:17-20

Strategic Pivots are:

- Intentional John 12:32; John 19:28-30
- Done with preparation
 - ➤ God prepares us for pivoting Mat. 4:19
 - Gen. 50:20
 - Gen. 32:28
 - Esther 4:14
 - ➤ We must prepare ourselves and those assigned to us Neh. 2:11-18
- Require being open to change -

Questions we must ask ourselves

- Is what I am doing of God?
- ❖ Is how I am doing it of God?
- Is my timing of doing it in sync with God?
- ❖ Do I know the goal?
- ❖ Do I have a plan?
- Am I executing a strategy or just winging it?
- Is my current approach working?
- When is the last time I updated my approach?
- ❖ Did I shut down when I should have pivoted?
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