

UNSHAKABLE FAITH

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Pastor Steve

Unshakable Faith: Living a Life of Purpose

Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock. Though the rain comes in torrents and the floodwaters rise and the winds beat against that house, it won't collapse because it is built on bedrock. Matthew 7:24-25

So be careful how you live. Don't live like fools, but like those who are wise. Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days. Don't act thoughtlessly, but understand what the Lord wants you to do. Ephesians 5:15-17

- I What does God want from me?_____.
- A) Do not let any part of your body become an instrument of evil to serve sin. Instead, give yourselves completely to God, for you were dead, but now you have new life. So use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God. Romans 6:13
 - B) Now, Israel, this is what the LORD your God wants you to do: Respect the LORD your God, and do what he has told you to do. Love him. Serve the LORD your God with your whole being, Deuteronomy 10:12
 - C) No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money. Matthew 6:24
 - D) What's going to be #1 in your life? _____
 - E) Then another of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." Matthew 8:21 (NKJV)
 - F) Jesus replied with this story: "A man prepared a great feast and sent out many invitations. When the banquet was ready, he sent his servant to tell the guests, 'Come, the banquet is ready.' But they all began making excuses. One said, 'I have just bought a field and must inspect it. Please excuse me.' Another said, 'I have just bought five pairs of oxen, and I want to try them out. Please excuse me.' Another said, 'I now have a wife, so I can't come.' Luke 14:16-20
 - G) In everything you do, put God first, and he will direct you and crown your efforts with success. Proverbs 3:6

II What does it take? _____

- A) People who accept discipline are on the pathway to life, but those who ignore correction will go astray. Proverbs 10:17
- B) ... discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness; 1 Timothy 4:7b (NASB)
- C) ... Spend your time and energy in the exercise of keeping spiritually fit. 1 Timothy 4:7b (TLB)
- D) You need the discipline of:

1) Letting go of things that aren't _____.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us. Hebrews 12:1

2) Putting first things _____.

But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her." Luke 10:40-42 (NRSV)

3) "God is always at work in you to make you willing and able to obey His own purpose." Phil. 2:13 TEV

E) Reverence for God adds hours to each day... Proverbs 10:27a

III Why should I do it? _____.

- A) "He died for all that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for Him who died for them and was raised again." 2 Cor. 5:15 NIV
- B) "Through the blood of His Son we are set free from our sins. God forgives our failures because of His overflowing kindness. God forgives our failures because of His overflowing kindness." Ephesians 1:7
- C) "Brothers and sisters, in view of all that we have just shared about God's compassion I encourage you to offer your bodies as living sacrifices dedicated to God and pleasing to Him." Rom. 12:1

IV The 5 purposes Jesus commanded for us as a church and for each of us as His followers:

- A) Jesus replied, "You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments." Matthew 22:37-40
- B) Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have

given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20

- C) Purpose #1: *"Love the Lord with all your heart."* _____.
- D) Purpose #2: *"Love your neighbor as yourself."* _____.
- E) Purpose #3: *"Go and make disciples."* _____.
- F) Purpose #4: *"Baptizing them."* _____.
- G) Purpose #5: *"Teaching them to obey."* _____.

"We beg you, please don't squander one bit of this marvelous life that God has given us."

2 Cor. 6:1 Msg.