

## **REMOVING THE SHADOW OF SHAME**

Come for time of celebration and to strengthen you to stand and HOLD THE LINE!  
Believe that this is strategic time for America and time for you and your church

### **50 YEARS – CHURCH 25 YEARS LEADERSHIP**

This week had 3 funerals and one wedding this afternoon  
Time of transition – New partnerships and new transitions!  
But in the midst of life God wants to bless you with a new confidence so that you know you have a voice for this season.

PA – Pennsylvania – use your Public address system and speak GOOD NEWS>  
There has been a strategy to silence your voice through shame and insecurity and fear.  
So I come today to strengthen you.  
God spoke to us and said - Go strengthen the church!

## **LEAN INTO JESUS**

### **John 21:20**

**Peter turned and saw that the disciple whom Jesus loved was following them. (This was the one who had leaned back against Jesus at the supper and had said, “Lord, who is going to betray you?”)**

### **JOHN THE BELOVED!**

John leant into the chest of Jesus and was known as the beloved of God.

**As he LEANED INTO JESUS he was able to stand and be present in the right place at the right time.**

Everyone else deserted Jesus but John was able to stay with Him.  
Can we hear the rhythm of the love of God giving you strength in this season?

## **REST BETWEEN HIS SHOULDERS**

### **Deut 33:12**

**<sup>12</sup> About Benjamin he said: “Let the beloved of the LORD rest secure in him, for he shields him all day long, and the one the LORD loves rests between his shoulders.”**

As we lean into HIS LOVE we learn to live from a perspective that I am loved and accepted not unloved and rejected.

We walk into a room and expect to be welcomed not ignored.

We begin to appreciate our value and know our worth and strengths and can focus on them rather than our weakness.

We begin to live from the rhythm of God’s love for us not the sound of our pain and deception.

We need to lean into this LOVE and let it teach us security.

## **LEAN NOT ...ON YOUR OWN UNDERSTANDING!**

### **Proverbs 3:5-6**

**Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.**

When your life is complex and challenging - just lean back into JESUS.

Do not rely on your ability to fix things and make them work.

We spend so much time worrying about the perfect solution and let anxiety drive our thoughts and emotions but LEAN IN to Jesus and not your ability to problem solve.

As we lean into Him we change our perspective and are able to look at life from a different world view. Submit your thinking and perspective to God and think from the place of resting and leaning into Him.

As I prayed I felt that one of the strategies the enemy is using to silence the church and the American people is the strategy of SHAME

## **REMOVING THE SHADOW OF SHAME**

**Psalm 34:5 (NLT)**

**<sup>5</sup> Those who look to him for help will be radiant with joy; no shadow of shame will darken their faces.**

In the beginning God created us free of shame!

**Genesis 2:25**

**Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.**

When God created man and women he created them to have relationships free from ALL SHAME. They were able to be “naked” in body, soul and mind and not feel ashamed of who they are!

BUT then the enemy comes – he deceives us!

He gives us worldly logic and wisdom and we eat the fruit of this wisdom and thinking and find we lose our freedom. We get caught in stinking thinking!

All through our life – the enemy has a plan to cover our faces with shame and God has a plan to lift our faces with glory and JOY!

**Genesis 3: 7-10**

**Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves. <sup>8</sup> Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup> But the LORD God called to the man, “Where are you?” <sup>10</sup> He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.”**

Suddenly they were no longer walking looking TO JESUS - they were looking away from JESUS – they were hiding – they were no longer free – shame had gripped their lives!

**Psalm 34:5 (NLT)**

**<sup>5</sup> Those who look to him for help will be radiant with joy; no shadow of shame will darken their faces.**

## **WALK INTO FREEDOM – SET YOUR FACE**

We need to ask God to give us a new tenacity to look to Jesus.

We need to set our face and look to Him

**Isaiah 50:7**

**Because the Sovereign LORD helps me, I will not be disgraced. Therefore have I set my face flint, and I know I will not be put to shame.**

**\*\* TO SET**

Literally it is like setting the GPS of our life and knowing the destination that we need to arrive at

If you want/need to change an area of your life then you need to give it your attention.

Do not worry about failure as when God speaks and helps you - you will win!

However, we need to learn to SET OUR FACE!

**Just because God said it – does not mean that it will be easy.**

We need to make the resolute decision and then discipline our body, mind and emotions and bring them – DRAG THEM – even if it is reluctantly to make them do what we are being called to do.

**DO NOT LISTEN to the devil even when he is telling the truth!**

**John 8:32**

Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free

**Ephesians 4:15**

Instead, speaking the **truth** in **love**, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.

TRUTH with no love: Bullying – Accusation - \*\* Me and bed wetting and smelly pants.

**Truth with no love brings destruction - But Truth spoken in LOVE brings liberation!**

Not any TRUTH but the SPIRIT of Truth shall set you free.

**SONG FROM BETEL**

**\*\* I AM NO LONGER A SLAVE TO SHAME – FOR I AM A CHILD OF God!**

So engage in the journey - you are born to be free.

No longer a slave Born FREE!