

There is NO Winging it!

Grace

 Grace is the greatest gift that we have been given. We are sentenced to death for eternity and only out of the richness of Yaweh's love are we able to be saved from that.

☑ <u>The Gift</u>

If you were given that gift, would you not be so grateful that you spend the rest of your life to honor who gave you that gift?

✓ Why is it so hard for us to give up everything and serve <u>Him?</u>

- Because of the shiny things the enemy dangles in our face, getting caught up in possessions or fame or sex or power or greed or comfortability and laziness.
- We somehow think that the things this world has to offer are better than the things God has for us and then we choose to hold onto them and we decide that we can pick and choose which things we compromise on.

We say that we want God to give us blessings, but also keep living with the sins in our life and we can't have it both ways.

I don't know why we even let these things that we're so resistant to let go of compete with the things that God has for us.

- When you really take your time to think about it, it's nowhere in comparison.
- Even if we were persecuted and hated by the world and were living a terrible life for the entire time we are on earth, it would be worth it for eternity we get to spend in heaven.
- But it's not even like that, When we live our lives for God and surrender everything over to Him, we receive blessings here on earth.

☑ <u>Those blessings could look different then you're thinking</u> <u>though.</u>

- Those blessing could look like peace, wisdom, joy, it could even look like success.
- I've heard too many stories of people that have given up everything for God and leaned on Him and the miracles God does in their lives or the connections God places in

their lives, or blessings in their business and success in their relationships.

- ☑ It's unbelievable.
- But most of all you feel the satisfaction that you are bringing glory to Yaweh your Heavenly Father.

And so I guess the question would be how do I give up those things, because it's really hard!

- This is where I want to get into why being intentional is so important.
- You first have to realize that you are weak and helpless on your own.
- If you try to rely on your own strength you will fail EVERY SINGLE TIME.
- When your flesh has been fed your whole life you have made it grow stronger than you realize.
- And you can not counteract it with your own will power.
- Stop relying on yourself and admit that you are weak and must rely on God.
- Once you realize you are dependent it humbles you. It puts a huge perspective on the fact that you are in constant need of a savior!

- <u>There has been this weird kind of state of mind of me</u>
 <u>trying to figure out when it comes to making changes in</u>
 <u>my life... What is God and what is me?</u>
 - There is this phrase that my dad says, If you take the first step, God will take the second step and by the time you're ready to take the Third step you will realize it was God who took the first step.
 - When I realized this in my testimony, I realized that without Him I couldn't have done any of it and it was Him who was working in my heart and through His power, and His alone, I was able to do these things
 - But I also realized that we need to take initiative and still be exerting 100% of our effort into what God has given us.
 - We are empowered through Him, but we have to take action
- Too many times though we lie to our selves and tell ourselves that we are just a helpless sinner at the foot of the cross that we are too weak.
 - Peoples favorite phrase is "Well I'm only human" and that lets them justify why they can keep messing up, and that's alright because they have no other choice...

- 1 Corinthians 10:13 says "No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it."
- There's nothing new under the sun, right?
- Any struggles you are dealing with are common to mankind.
- Plenty of people have dealt with the same struggles.
- And he won't let you be tempted beyond what you can bare.
- This means every temptation you are struggling you are able to overcome.

Do you know why that is?

- Because God defeated every sin through the cross and soGod already won the War.
- You just need to win the battles. The battle between flesh and spirit.
- And you can only win those battles with the power of the Holy Spirit.
- But you have to have a heart of repentance to be filled with the Holy Spirit
- **<u>M</u>** <u>This is why genuine repentance comes with actions.</u>

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- (Acts 3:19) It says Repent and turn to God, Not repent and turn back to our sins.
- We need to stop giving lip service repentance.
- Repenting because we know that's the right thing to do but then not truly believing we can deny our flesh the next time that temptation presents itself.

Discipline

- This is where discipline comes into the picture and being intentional is so important because there is no winging it.
 - You must put certain parameters in place for yourself
 because if you don't you will fail, there is no winging it.
 - There is no I'm going to hangout in my girlfriends room 1on 1, I won't slip up I'll be fine.
 - There is no…I'm just going to go hangout with all of my friends who drink and smoke.
 - I'm not going to do that, I'll be fine—THERE IS NOWINGING IT
 - When you start to implement these habits you see the change in your life start to happen.
 - When someone wants to change their lifestyle and health and appearance and they start going to the gym, do you think that they want to go to the gym every time they

choose to go? No, but they choose to go when they don't feel like it.

- And then by choosing to Go they create a good habit by overriding that feeling of "not wanting to" and ultimately doing something that has benefited them each time and furthered them in their process of the goal they are trying to achieve.
- Similarly, you install habits that are productive with your relationship with Yaweh and you cut out the counter productive habits that you have in your life

<u>Choose to read your bible, I'm not saying legalistically,</u> <u>but because you understand the power in the Word.</u>

- I can't tell you how many times I have chose to read my bible even when I didn't necessarily feel like it or just wanted to do something instead.
- But when I chose to read it anyway and ended up benefiting from it and was glad I chose to read once I finished.

Choose to pray.

- Don't you think that if you constantly communicate with your Heavenly Father that it will strengthen your bond with Him.
- ☑ The concept of praying without ceasing is so cool...

✓ Outcome

Once these habits are in place, and you stay disciplined you will start to see the changes in your life