

## LET'S TRY THIS AGAIN

PASTOR CRAIG SWEENEY

January 10, 2021

*So let us stop going over the basic teachings about Christ again and again. Let us go on instead and become mature in our understanding. Surely we don't need to start again ... <sup>3</sup> And so, God willing, we will move forward to further understanding.*

**Hebrews 6:1-3 NLT**

**Thread:** 2021 will offer many reasons to NOT grow with Jesus; GROW with Jesus anyway!

### Here is what we learned in 2020:

- We can expect God to be faithful to us!
- We can expect God's presence to bring us real PEACE in the chaos and confusion of this spiritual war going on around us.
- We can expect to be strong as we walk with Jesus.
- We can expect God to move powerfully through us as we walk with Jesus.
  - Acts 1:8

### In 2021 I'm calling Heights Church to:

- Humble ourselves.
- Seek God's presence MORE!
- Determine ahead of time that we will, with the power to the Holy Spirit, step into the opportunities God will most certainly bring our way!

*This letter is from Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus, appointed by the command of God our Savior and Christ Jesus, who gives us hope.*

<sup>2</sup> *I am writing to Timothy, my true son in the faith.*

*May God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord give you grace, mercy, and peace.*

<sup>3</sup> *When I left for Macedonia, I urged you to stay there in Ephesus and stop those whose teaching is contrary to the truth. <sup>4</sup> Don't let them waste their time in endless discussion of myths and spiritual pedigrees. These things only lead to meaningless speculations, which don't help people live a life of faith in God.*

<sup>5</sup> *The purpose of my instruction is that all believers would be filled with love that comes from a pure heart, a clear conscience, and genuine faith. <sup>6</sup> But some people have missed this whole point. They have turned away from these things and spend their time in meaningless discussions.*

**1 Timothy 1:1-6 NLT**

### Setting myself up for God's success in the new year--

2 simple questions I have to know the answers to:

1. What does God want FOR me?
2. What does God want FROM me?

### Setting ourselves up for God's success:

- "that comes from a pure heart"
- Not **conflicted** or in **competition** with itself.
- Driven solely by Jesus.
- "a clear conscience"
- Clear **windshield**.
- God is able to **speak** to you through it.
- "and genuine faith"
- This is who I am--someone following Jesus on His walk.

### 30 Day Challenge:

- Prioritize Chair Time at 15 minutes, 3-5 days a week (time to up your game!)
- 3/30 Who will you commit to pray that they "see God's best for them in the 30 days and that they step into it."
- Read/meditate for the next 30 days on Matthew chapter 5,6,7 & 8.

Check out these FREE online studies from Doug Britton for further study:

#### Discovering God's Will — Through Opening Your Heart

[www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/prepare-heart](http://www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/prepare-heart)

#### Discovering God's Will — Through the Bible

[www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/bible-gods-will](http://www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/bible-gods-will)

#### Discovering God's Will - Through the Holy Spirit

[www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/listen-to-holy-spirit](http://www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/listen-to-holy-spirit)

## Life Group Homework

For the week of January 10, 2021

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### MY STORY

- 1) How was your Christmas and New Year's?
- 2) Where do you see God working in your life or in the lives of others?

### QUICK REVIEW

- 3) What encouraged you from Sunday's message?

### DIGGING DEEPER/TAKING IT HOME

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#### 1 Timothy 1:1-6 NLT

- 4) What did Paul urge Timothy to do?
- 5) What is a spiritual pedigree?
- 6) Why did Paul consider it a waste of time to discuss myths and spiritual pedigrees?

- 7) From the passage, what is Paul's purpose?
- 8) Where does that love come from, and what does it look like in action?
- 9) Pastor Craig's challenge this week was this: "God, what is Your will for me at this point in my life?" Do you know what your answer is?

### CHAIR TIME TOOL

Over the next few weeks, while Pastor Craig is teaching this series, the reading for Chair Time is Matthew Chapters 5-8. This is known as the Sermon on the Mount, and I encourage you to read it in its entirety each day. I will write different questions for each week, but the reading will remain the same.

- 1) What do you see about God in this passage?
- 2) In this passage we learn how members of God's household think and act; how is it different than what the world tells us?
- 3) What is your takeaway from the reading?