

Recognising the source of your strength

Life in the in-between land – pt 9

Joshua 23-24

1. Recognise that the good things I have come from God

“I took your ancestor Abraham from the land beyond the Euphrates and led him into the land of Canaan. I gave him many descendants... I gave the mountains of Seir,

⁵“Then I sent Moses and Aaron, and I brought terrible plagues on Egypt; and afterward I brought you out as a free people.... ⁷When your ancestors cried out to the Lord, I put darkness between you and the Egyptians. I brought the sea crashing down

⁸“Finally, I brought you into the land of the Amorites...I destroyed them before you. I gave you victory over them, and you took possession of their land...I gave you victory over them. ¹²And I sent terror ahead of you ... ¹³I gave you land you had not worked on, and I gave you towns you did not build—the towns where you are now living. I gave you vineyards and olive groves for food, though you did not plant them.” Joshua 24:2-13

“Whatever is good and perfect is a gift coming down to us from God...He never changes ...And we, out of all creation, became his prized possession.” James 1:17-18

2. Identify your idols and remove them

Put away forever the idols your ancestors worshiped...Serve the Lord alone. Jos 24:14

Joshua said, “destroy the idols among you, and turn your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel.” Joshua 24:23

3. Chose every morning to serve the Lord

So fear the Lord and serve him wholeheartedly... Serve the Lord alone. ¹⁵But if you refuse to serve the Lord, then choose today whom you will serve. Would you prefer the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates? Or will it be the gods of the Amorites in whose land you now live? But as for me and my family, we will serve the Lord.” Joshua 24:14-15

4. Point people to Jesus and create a fruitful legacy

“The people of Israel served the Lord throughout the lifetime of Joshua and of the elders who outlived him—those who had personally experienced all that the Lord had done for Israel.” Joshua 24:31

“Let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.” Matt 5:16

“If you look for me wholeheartedly, you will find me.” Jer 29:13