

Let's Choose Truth

I. Esteem the Truth

Proverbs 23:23 (NIV®)

Buy the truth and do not sell it; get wisdom, discipline and understanding.

Matthew 13:44–46 (NIV®)

⁴⁴ "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and **sold all he had and bought that field.** ⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. ⁴⁶ When he found one of great value, he went away and **sold everything he had and bought it.**"

Watch, Listen, Think, Act

II. The Courage to Serve the Lord

A. Our Assignment — Accept or Reject?

Isaiah 6:1–8 (NIV®)

¹ In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple. ² Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. ³ And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory." ⁴ At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke. ⁵ "Woe to me!" I cried. "I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty." ⁶ Then one of the seraphs flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. ⁷ With it he touched my mouth and said, "See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for." ⁸ Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "**Here am I. Send me!**"

B. Reluctance

Moses

Exodus 3:9–11 (NIV®)

⁹ "And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. ¹⁰ So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt." ¹¹ But Moses said to God, "Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?"

Exodus 4:1 (NIV®)

Moses answered, "What if they do not believe me or listen to me and say, 'The Lord did not appear to you?'"

Exodus 4:10 (NIV®)

Moses said to the Lord, "O Lord, I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor since you have spoken to your servant. I am slow of speech and tongue."

Exodus 4:12–14 (NIV®)

¹² “Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say.” ¹³ But Moses said, “O Lord, please send someone else to do it.” ¹⁴ Then the Lord’s anger burned against Moses and he said, “What about your brother, Aaron the Levite? I know he can speak well. He is already on his way to meet you, and his heart will be glad when he sees you.”

Gideon

Judges 6:11–16 (NIV®)

¹¹ The angel of the Lord came and sat down under the oak in Ophrah that belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, where his son Gideon was threshing wheat in a winepress to keep it from the Midianites. ¹² When the angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon, he said, “The Lord is with you, mighty warrior.” ¹³ “But sir,” Gideon replied, “**if the Lord is with us, why has all this happened to us?** Where are all his wonders that our fathers told us about when they said, ‘Did not the Lord bring us up out of Egypt?’ But now the Lord has abandoned us and put us into the hand of Midian.” ¹⁴ The Lord turned to him and said, “Go in the strength you have and save Israel out of Midian’s hand. Am I not sending you?” ¹⁵ “But Lord,” Gideon asked, “**how can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family.**” ¹⁶ The Lord answered, “I will be with you, and you will strike down all the Midianites together.”

C. Preparing for Something

1 Samuel 17:36–37 (NIV®)

³⁶ Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. ³⁷ The Lord who delivered me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.” Saul said to David, “Go, and the Lord be with you.”

III. What We Can Do!

Hebrews 12:1 (NIV®)

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, **let us throw off everything that hinders** and the sin that so easily entangles, and **let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.**

Let’s Read

Let’s Pray

Let’s Talk

Proclamation of Hope & Encouragement

I put on the garment of praise and hope. I choose the joy of the Lord as my strength. I lay aside the spirit of heaviness and raise my voice in praise of the Living God. May my eyes be opened to the provision of God and my ears attentive to the sound of His deliverance. Holy Spirit help me, in You I find power and revelation. God has restored my broken heart and set my feet on a path of victory. I have hope for today and the strength to complete the course You have chosen for me. Let the people of God arise triumphant and may the name of Jesus be lifted up throughout the earth. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Psalms 34:18-19 (NIV®)

¹⁸ The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. ¹⁹ A righteous man may have many troubles, but the LORD delivers him from them all;