



Date 12/27/2020

2020 Hindsight

Themes in 2020...

- FAITH
- Social Covenant
- Prayer of Daniel 9
- SEED
- Walk with Christ

Availability (*F.A.I.T.H.*)

“What if you’re the kind of person who ALWAYS says NO to almost everything?”
– Adam Sicinski

Christ-Centered Relationships (*Social Covenant*)

God’s Grace Process for Relational Repair

- Truth** (bring into light, reveal reality)
- **Judgment** (establishing guilt or innocence)
 - **Consequences** (penitent vs. impenitent)
 - **Reconciliation** (repentance/forgiveness)
 - **Healing** (recovery & restoration)
 - **Transformation** (change & freedom!)

Empower (*S.E.E.D.*)

The Holy Spirit ...

- **Indwells** believers
 - by turning to Jesus. (Jn 1:12, Acts 2:38, 1 Cor 3:18)
- **Fills** believers
 - by participation. (Eph 5:17)
- **Empowers** believers
 - by laying hold of it. (Acts 1:8)

Prayer (*Daniel 9*)

God's Timing + Your Praying (Rick Warren)

God fulfills His plan as you pray.

Depression (*Special Topic*)

Redemptive – In what way(s) are you *better* because of your experience?

- God's purpose is to make you *better* (Rom 8:28, Phil 1:6, 3:10, Col 1:29, Jas 1:2-3)
- God draws near the brokenhearted; Identify with Saints and Jesus (Philippians 3:10)
- Know yourself, self-awareness. (Phil 4:12-13)
- Know and help others - empathy (2 Cor. 1:2-3, 1 John 3:18)

Recovery

- **5 Morning Scriptures** – Psa 118:24, 143:8, Lam 3:22-23, Is 6:3; Jn 1:16.
- **5 Experiences** – Give Thanks, Be Still, Music, Sing, Nature.
- **5 Brain chemicals** – *serotonin* (function), dopamine (perk up), adrenaline (boost), *oxytocin* (love), cortisol (stress).
- **5 Physical Therapies** – Blood flow, Diet (gut), Rest, Supplements/Meds, Think.
- **5 Fellowship Therapies** – Friends, Counselors, Doctors, Reconcile, Serve Others.

Slogans to Live By

- Live or Die, Glorify!
- Resolve that all live for the glory of God. Resolve secondly that whether or not anyone else does, I will.
- What do you want YOUR church to look like? You be that.
- Depressed? God is okay with your not being okay.
- God fulfills His plan as you pray. (Rick Warren)

2020 Hindsight

Two sayings: “2020 Vision” ... “2020 Hindsight.” (which prefer?)
What does 2020 Hindsight accomplish? Why is it beneficial?

→ Wisdom

None of us expected what we got. But all of us got better (could get better) by what we got.

Coordinator of Times Square activities

- **Gloria Gaynor's** song, *I Will Survive*:
- Go out the door, just turn around now, you're not welcome anymore.
- Creative? Yes, but *not* the *attitude* we ought to live by.

Christmas put it all together for me, though. 2020 Punctuated with the birth of our Savior! A Light shining in the darkness! Nothing better!

(Pray)

Transition

Daughter: How was her day? Junk. How was work? It was good. I was your lunch? It was good. Outing? It was good. So good + good + good = junk? Then my daughter said oh, I guess it was a good day!

Me: Day by day I say – Psa 118:24, 143:8; Lam 3:22-23, John 1:16
Every day God's grace shows up! How can I say 2020 was a junk year? I have to fight the thought, though. It was, however, a ***difficult*** year!

Q. Is this the YEAR the Lord has made?

Body

Pastors and leadership teams:

“We normally start the year with a plan and spend the rest of the year executing that plan. But this year turned out nothing like we planned.”

Likewise, we at WOCC had plans for 2020. At the **end of 2019** we had established three important concepts – with GOALS to start a new chapter in our church.

- WOCC Believer Profile - FAITH
- Mission Statement – SEED
- Social Covenant – Fully Invest in, and Empower Relationships,

We began 2020 with Sermon Series...

- FAITH (Jan)
- Social Covenant (Feb-Apr)
- Prayer of Daniel 9 (May-Jun)
- SEED (July-Aug)
- Walk With Christ (Sept-Dec)

Spaced Repetition – THE key to remembering.

Review of what to me are the top 5 points.

But First, some Comic Relief (amid the first shutdown)

Project
on
Screen



From our series on FAITH

Availability

“What if you’re the kind of person who ALWAYS says NO to almost everything?”

– Adam Sicinski

Availability is the very starting point for growth of any kind!

What we mean by Availability is Availability to God, not to yourself.

The Good Samaritan was a conduit for God to work; not the Priest and Levite.

God could force you, but He won’t, therefore **willingness** is the key to availability.

“Now I know that you fear God because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son.” - Genesis 22:12c

From our series on Social Covenant

God’s Grace Process for Relational Repair

Truth (bring into light, reveal reality)

→ **Judgment** (establishing guilt or innocence)

→ **Consequences** (penitent vs. impenitent)

→ **Reconciliation** (repentance/forgiveness)

→ **Healing** (recovery & restoration)

→ **Transformation** (change & freedom!)

Covered 3 times this year.

Review Chart

→ We do not serve mainly to offer what we can do.

→ We are serve to grow in character. CHANGE.

○ **How is God changing you???**

▪ *yes, now, during COVID*

▪ *Unless God is taking a break from his perfecting process.*

Exiting God’s Grace Process of Relational Repair

at any stage, will stunt your growth.

What is God doing in your life. God's kind of healing makes us better people than we were before.

- Your **physical injury** may not be better than before, but you can be ***better person***. I have lots of physical injuries over the years that will never be better than before, but I am a better person.
 - How's that? I'm less arrogant, less foolish, less prideful, more aware, more peace. I steward my body and health.
- Your **emotional pain** might not be better than it was before, but you can be a ***better person***.
 - How's that? Hurts make you a more empathic and sympathetic and understanding person. It helps you minister and serve others better.
 - It makes you more humble. Better able to serve others.
- Your **failure** may not be better than before, but it can make you a ***better person***.
 - How's that? Failure makes you less cocky, less a know-it-all.
 - It makes you more humble. God opposes the proud
 - Better able to minister and serve other.

From Series on SEED

Empower

The Holy Spirit ...

- ***Indwells*** believers
 - by turning to Jesus. (Jn 1:12, Acts 2:38, 1 Cor 3:18)
- ***Fills*** believers
 - by participation. (Eph 5:17)
- ***Empowers*** believers
 - by laying hold of it. (Acts 1:8)

From Daniel's Prayer – Daniel 9

Rick Warren:

God's Timing + Your Praying

→ God fulfills His plan as you pray.

In order to work our prosperous, hopeful future,
God has a **timetable**. (say that with me...)

Note that God tells Jeremiah

I have a plan. It's a precise plan. I'm not changing it.
You will be in exile for 70 years.

When 70 years us up, pray earnestly → come home.

We see an *interplay* between **God's sovereignty** and
your responsibility.

- God is **sovereign** and will work out His divine plan.
- You have a **responsibility** to participate in His plan –
What is *your* responsibility? You need to **pray**.
If you don't pray, you might not benefit from God's plan.

James 4:2c

"You do not have because you do not ask God."

There are prosperous and hopeful things God wants to do in
your life,

But ... you need to ask.

Both **God's timing** and **your praying** work together.

How does this work?

Let's say God has a plan to prosper you and give you good gifts.

But you don't ask, you don't pray.

You might not get it.

On the other hand, Let's say you're connecting with God,
seeking him with all your heart, listening to Him, praying.

But, you don't receive what you're asking for.

Then the matter has to do with **God's timing**.

From Special Sermon on Depression and Anxiety

Redemptive – i.e. how are you *better* because of your experience?

- God's purpose is to make you *better* (Rom 8:28, Phil 1:6, 3:10, Col 1:29, Jas 1:2-3)
- God draws near the brokenhearted; Identify with Saints and Jesus (Philippians 3:10)
- Know yourself, self-awareness. (Phil 4:12-13)
- Know and help others - empathy (2 Cor. 1:2-3, 1 John 3:18)

Recovery

- **5 Morning Scriptures** – Psa 118:24, 143:8, Lam 3:22-23, Is 6:3; Jn 1:16.
- **5 Experiences** – Give Thanks, Be Still, Music, Sing, Nature.
- **5 Brain chemicals** – *serotonin* (function), dopamine (perk up), adrenaline (boost), *oxytocin* (love), cortisol (stress).
- **5 Physical Therapies** – Blood flow, Diet (gut), Rest, Supplements/Meds, Think.
- **5 Fellowship Therapies** – Friends, Counselors, Doctors, Reconcile, Serve Others.

2020 Slogans:

- Live or Die, Glorify!
- Resolve that all live for the glory of God. Resolve secondly that whether or not anyone else does, I will.
- What do you want YOUR church to look like? You be that.
- God is okay with your not being okay.
- God fulfills His plan as you pray. (Rick Warren)