Bill Johnson

Dwell on nobility

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# Tree on the side

Trees have fallen over, still alive but on the side. Some people just have life because of the environment they're in, but they never truly become what they're meant to become. Windfall, trees cut down people would mark to cut them down. All beautiful trees had fallen, the only reason they fell was because they did that and a big wind storm came. The root system they developed was only the roots they needed, when you have many winds and opposition no one fell, when you trim them out, the tree that did fine in a company of trees fell when it was by itself.

One of the greatest joys of his lives was standing between the hundreds and thousands that believe, but it was also great to stand between the hundreds and thousands that didn't believe, but believed. Not interested in being a rebel, but don't care about the opinion of the masses. I am not even interested in my opinion.

John 7:18 (ESV) The one who speaks on his own authority seeks his own glory; but the one who seeks the glory of him who sent him is true, and in him there is no falsehood.

We dialogue until we hit that sweet spot where we can hear the Lord, I love the voice of God. Where else would you want to be? Right in the middle of Gods will is the greatest place to live.

Roots have to be set down, you're in a forest right now. 2 weeks you're going on a vacation, I pray that during those weeks with free time you will set down some roots that are not dependent on the people around you. Stuff we do in life, the summer you had. Those are the times you figure out how deep your root system is. The root system of the trees that are right there on the side of the mountain with a lot of wind. You don't find forest on the rock tops, but they have incredible strength to them. Not a lot of flash, but they got personality!

Slightest little crack in a rock, a root will grow into it and crack the rock open in a few years. Here is what I want; I want you to do well in a huge faith-filled community, and do well when you're on your own. It is difficult, but it is not complicated. Knowing how to strengthen yourself.

# Operate out of Presence

Rather operate out of Presence than Kingdom Principles. More happens if you operate out of Presence than out of principles. Strong value in his life to operate out of that Presence. We’re not going to fill file cabinets when the Lord is there, recognize that He has shown up. Meeting through the year where that glory began to come. Worship continuous for 2 or 3 hours. Not a meeting long to make it long, but also not going to interrupt Him to do what He’s called upon to do.

Quit looking for a place to minister tonight, we’re just not doing it tonight. He couldn't find a place to do it without violating that anointing. Responsible for his assignment, checked with the leadership.

82 people were healed, if he would've prayed right after the message, probably 20 people would get healed. What could've taken hours took only a few minutes. I remember a time where you would only hear one of those testimonies. But it never gets old! Always awesome to hear of that happening. Sharing testimonies. Eric: "we're one day closer"

Don’t let anyone every force you into giving an explanation for something. If you have it, give it. If you don't want to give it, don’t. Sometimes I have one, and I don’t tell them. Too easy to use your insights to impress people.

Psalms 103:3 (ESV) who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,

He cut that passage out and put it on the wall. Why is Eric not healed yet? I don't know, and I can not guess why. We don't know how big of a hole we crawled into until we need to get out of it.

# Treasure mystery

Treasure the mystery! A lot of people can’t live in that place Not called the reasoning, but the faith. What are you going to feed your soul on? What are you going to allow to form the expectation of tomorrow?

Whatever things are true; God is always good, God is always speaking, faithful, love. Whatever things that are noble; Nelson Mandela, Queen of England, whatever things that are just; dealing with human trafficking, whatever things are pure; children, good report, virtues, worthy of praise. Good rapport is a part of that. If you don't think about those things it will take you down. If you feed yourself on an inferior Kingdom you tear yourself down.

His wife is noble, Kris that gave up the business world, Danny that was raised in such a place. The Lord gave each of us a healthy diet to feed upon.

# Questions and answers

Jean Paul Jackson was here quite a few years ago. Wonderful pure gift, sharing a few bizarre stories. The Lord had shown him that the next great move of God is going to be about

Romans 4 (ESV) *Abraham Justified by Faith*

*What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:*

*“Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven,*

*and whose sins are covered;*

*blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.”*

*Is this blessing then only for the circumcised, or also for the uncircumcised? For we say that faith was counted to Abraham as righteousness. How then was it counted to him? Was it before or after he had been circumcised? It was not after, but before he was circumcised. He received the sign of circumcision as a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised. The purpose was to make him the father of all who believe without being circumcised, so that righteousness would be counted to them as well, and to make him the father of the circumcised who are not merely circumcised but who also walk in the footsteps of the faith that our father Abraham had before he was circumcised.*

*The Promise Realized Through Faith*

*For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.*

*That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, “So shall your offspring be.” He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. That is why his faith was “counted to him as righteousness.” But the words “it was counted to him” were not written for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.*

Bill decided to read that chapter for a full year. He holds close to his vows. His promises. 2nd year he read it, 3rd year he read it too. When you hear that word from somebody you love and trust you adjust your life.

From Romans 4 what was the Lord saying about that revival? Faith and hope against hope. Abraham was known for faith. God considered him righteous of faith. His nephew is Lot. Peter calls Lot righteous. Lot was oppressed by the conduct of the people around him. Wasn't their righteousness that kept them safe, it was hope.

**How do I lean into Him every day practically?**

You don't choose the easy road, not comfort over sacrifice, a life of ease over a life that challenges you. You don't choose. Not business, but the kinds of things we embrace over our lives. We have got to have things in front of us that are impossible, what is convenient for you today was yesterday's sacrifice. What do you do to stay on the edge? Keep connected to things that are impossible and difficult.

**What does it look like with ministry and personal life?**

Do the best you can, like an arrow and bow. If we don't have places where we can unstring our bow it is very bad. There is nobody that will do it for you. No one around him is in charge of that area. I have to recognize fatigue, how my thinking and values change if I do that. Look ahead and have scheduled times for those things. Look in advances that I know what I need. Just do it and schedule it. Be intelligent enough to have your schedule. Not just my needs, also the people around me. Resting or being together is as spiritual of an activity as praying and preaching for the people around you.

**Sometimes it is really hard to minister to your own spouse and family, through observation and things with others what does it look like?**

People that know you best, a prophet is not without honor anywhere else. We learn ministry separate from applause and people that worship you. A Huge part of life, you know you've got a kingdom breakthrough when you can minister in power to the people that know you best. Authentic recognition of each other's gifts. Prophet that receives honor at home.

**When you stayed together you used to wrestle a little bit, who was the better wrestler?**

I am not even sure you need an explanation for that one. I don't even remember wrestling Kris. I have to be careful about what I share about Kris’ memory. Leg press 850 pounds. Dumbbells 95 pounds each hand.

**Why don't we practice interpretation of tongues here as words of knowledge?**

My understanding it is much more difficult to practice in a crowd that is bigger. He who speaks in an unknown tongue speaks to God, not to man. The tongue he would hear was always the prophetic word. We turned our attention to the prophetic word that needed to be heard. Acts 2 all baptized in the Holy Spirit and fire, all in unknown tongues. Are they not all speaking of the mighty deeds of God? Nature and character of God. Interpretation of praise. The exception is to pray in unknown tongues. Intercessory expression. Much more challenging to moderate, we've had it. Prophetic is much more intentional than spontaneous. Harder and harder to have it spontaneous. everybody can prophesy. Becomes more challenging to pastor well. If you have a prophetic word come up and tell us. Sometimes it was a prophetic word, a real word but it was for them.

**Fasting, some people do it habitually, what is the benefit of fasting if it is without a specific event?**

Fasting refines focus, not a hunger strike. Hungry for the unseen, maybe a greater miracle anointing, a family member being saved. Shutting down my appetite of what I can see to what I can’t see.

**Do you plan extra time when you seek for God while fasting?**

Sometimes it has been a bit of a struggle. Getting alone with the Lord is important and fasting as well.

**What are measurable points in building big people compared to big ministries?**

I don’t think that way, they think 5 steps to that. That is as foreign to him as living on the moon. Empower them, champion them and be in the room when they speak, encourage them about the significance of the word. Some of them grow and become giants, some stay little. Different roles from the Lord. That is how I think, honestly love and honor people is what I do. The amount of people in the room not nearly as important to me as the impact on the lives of the people.