

Moved?

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Little Boy Clip

- Pepper Flynt Busbee - 7 year old boy's love for his father
- Teased as a "little boy" by classmates
- Dad- his best friend: Partner, do you believe you can do this? Little Boy: Yes, I believe I can do this!
- Father goes off to WWII
- Hears a message at church: "Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move" (Mt. 17:20)
- He becomes determined to get enough faith to bring his father home
- Everyone is becoming "concerned" because of his unwavering faith, the priest steps in...

Play Clip: He's The Mover (3:22)

- You moved me to move this bottle...
- We don't move the mountain, God moves it
- But do we move Him to move the mountain?

What Moves God?

- God is not moved by circumstances, but He is moved by our heart response to those circumstances
- 2 Chronicles 16:9 For the eyes of the LORD move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His.
- Jesus was moved with compassion Matthew 20:34 / Mark 1:41
- There must be something He sees within us that moves Him to action

Do I Move God? And If I do...which way? For Me or Against Me?

Against Me

- Pride
 - James 4:6 – Therefore it says, "God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble."
 - Oppose = to resist; to range in battle against
 - proud = showing one's self above others; overwhelming estimate of ones merits; despising others or treating them with contempt; haughty

- Complaining
 - Children of Israel – fire, earthquakes, snakes Numbers 11, 16, 21
- Lying
 - Acts 5 Ananias & Sapphira
- Unforgiveness
 - Mark 11:22-26 And Jesus answered saying to them, “Have faith in God. Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says is going to happen, it will be granted him. Therefore I say to you, all things for which you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and they will be granted you. Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father who is in heaven will also forgive you your transgressions. But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father who is in heaven forgive your transgressions.

For Me

- Faith
 - When I confidently perceive as real fact what is not revealed to the senses; Am certain of the things I cannot see
 - Closely linked together - confidence, trust, believing
 - Enemy strategy is to break any one or all of those
 - Remember *Faith works by love Galatians 5:6
 - Amp: faith activated and energized and expressed and working through love
 - Faith is useless to anyone who harbors hatred
- Prayer
 - 2 Samuel 21:14 Saul & Jonathan die, “after that God was moved by prayer for the land”
 - James 5:16 Confess to one another therefore your faults, your slips, your false steps, your offenses, your sins and pray also for one another, that you may be healed and restored to a spiritual tone of mind and heart. The earnest, heartfelt, continued prayer of a righteous man makes tremendous power available, dynamic in its working.
 - Solomon finished the house of the Lord
 - The Lord appeared to Solomon at night and gave him instruction
 - If I shut up the heavens, if the land is devoured, if there’s a fatal epidemic on the people...
 - 2 Chronicles 7:14 ...and My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin and will heal their land.
 - verse 15 Now My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to the prayer offered in this place.
 - Exodus 2:23-25 / 3:7-9 Israelites cried out with passion from Egypt and God took notice & delivered them

- Psalm 50:15 Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I shall rescue you, and you will honor Me
 - you have to call before you get rescued
 - think of being in a storm and not calling out for help
 - me under the tent in Africa – not calling out cuz my skirt was over my head!
- Worship & Praise
 - Worship = worth + ship
 - Giving God worth – by focusing your attention on Him
 - How do we know that you value something?
 - Praise is the joyful thanking and adoring of God
 - Psalm 22:3 God inhabits the praises of His people
 - 2 Chronicles 20 Jehoshaphat sent the praisers 1st
 - Acts 16 Paul & Silas
- Forgiveness

Romans 8:31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us?

Case Study: Job

- Job is a righteous man
- His kids are partiers, he fears for them
- An assault from the enemy is launched on Job
- God has confidence that Job will stand
- Everything is wiped out, he is full of boils
- His wife is telling him to curse God
- His “friends” are saying you must have done something wrong & try to correct him
- Job says a lot of crazy stuff –
 - 6:26 Job says of himself, “Do you intend to reprove my words, when the words of one in despair belong to the wind?”
 - In grief and pain and despair people often say things they otherwise would not say.
 - They say, “Where is God?” Or: “There is no use to go on.” Or: “Nothing makes any sense.” Or: “There’s no hope for me.” Or: “If God were good this couldn’t have happened.”
 - These words are for the wind = will be quickly blown away
 - There will come a turn in circumstances and the despairing person will waken from the dark night and regret hasty words
 - If we had discernment we could tell the difference between the words with roots and the words blowing in the wind
 - But not all grey words get their color from a black heart. Some are colored mainly by the pain, the despair
 - There are words with roots in deep error and deep evil – those need to be corrected
 - What you hear is not the deepest thing within

- There is something real within where they come from
 - But it is temporary—like a passing infection—real, painful, but not the true person
 - spoken not from the soul, but from the sore
 - If they are for the wind, let us wait in silence and not reprove. Restoring the soul not reprovng the sore is the aim of our love
 - 8:2 Bildad says to him, “How long will you say these things, and the words of your mouth be a mighty wind?”
 - 16:3 Job says friends are sorry comforters “is there no limit to windy words?” I could speak like you if I were in your place...
- Job 42
 - He finally humbles himself before the Lord
 - I have heard of you, but now my eyes have seen you
 - I repent
 - God rebukes the “friends” for misrepresenting Him
 - Tells the friends to go make an offering and Job will pray for them
 - They did and “The Lord accepted Job”
 - vs. 10 The Lord restored and increased two-fold when Job prayed for his friends
 - Blessed the later days of Job more than the beginning
 - Job lived another 140 years!
 - Most theologians think this took place between 9 mos – 1 year
 - I wonder what Job said about that “season” 70 years later?

Are You Moved?

What Moves You...Towards God? What Moves You...Away From God?

How Do You Respond When The Storms of Life Hit?

Do you:

- Raise a fist at God
- Question His love and faithfulness
- Make a vow because of a soul wound
 1. I will never...
 2. That’s the last time I...
 3. I won’t do that again...
 4. I can’t ever trust them...
- Withdraw

Or Do You...

- Call out to your Father
- Run to the Word
- Begin to worship

- Forgive quickly and completely?

James 4:8 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.

Even when you've done everything you know to move Him – you are standing in faith, you are praying, you are worshipping, you are forgiving – and it still seems like God is not moving? Are you moved?

Did Daniel get spared from a testing of faith? Did he freak out in the Lion's Den? Daniel 6

Did Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego get spared from a testing of faith? Did they have a panic attack? Daniel 3

These guys were not moved by their circumstances

In these days, everything that can be shaken will be shaken

We have an unshakeable God and we are of an unshakable kingdom Hebrews 12:26-29

Psalms 55:22 Cast your burden upon the LORD and He will sustain you; He will never allow the righteous to be shaken.

Psalms 62:2 He only is my rock and my salvation, My stronghold; I shall not be greatly shaken.

Hold fast to your confession of faith 1 Timothy 6:12 / Hebrews 10:23

1 Corinthians 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.

We have been in a season of learning and now we are in a season of testing our weapons

It's the difference between "book knowledge" and field testing

It's the difference between drivers ed class and taking a driving test

It's not just about knowing, it's about applying that knowledge

We should be moved - moved to take up a weapon in our hand and run to battle

We should be moved to start fighting not as an individual but as a body

We should be moved with compassion towards our brothers and sisters

Are you moved?