

Determined Faith

Moving Day!

World Outreach Church
Sermon Discussion Guide
Sunday Sermon: **March 12, 2023**



We have been talking about *Sanctuary of Scripture-The Walk Way* and “what’s next” for our congregation and the ministry God has invited us to together. Through this process, we have been sharing videos to give you glimpses of the church’s journey. We began as a church on Easter Sunday, 1980, and there have been many iterations of World Outreach Church, but our commitment to the fundamentals and a desire to see people become more fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ and not changed. So, it’s important to understand we are on a journey, and we have not reached a destination. We are not complete yet, and our story isn’t fully written. We’re not done—we are part of a living story—and we are moving forward with a determined faith!

I. A TIME OF GREAT CONTRASTS

Revelation 22:10–13 ¹⁰ Then he told me, “Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, because the time is near. ¹¹ **Let him who does wrong continue to do wrong; let him who is vile continue to be vile; let him who does right continue to do right; and let him who is holy continue to be holy.**” ¹² “Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.

A. Vision

John 8:56 “Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad.”

Hebrews 11:13 All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance. And they admitted that they were aliens and strangers on earth.

Amos 8:11–12 ¹¹ “The days are coming,” declares the Sovereign Lord, “when I will send a famine through the land— not a famine of food or a thirst for water, but a famine of hearing the words of the Lord. ¹² Men will stagger from sea to sea and wander from north to east, searching for the word of the Lord, but they will not find it.”

B. The Courage to Lead

Nehemiah 1:1–11 ¹ The words of Nehemiah son of Hacaliah: In the month of Kislev in the twentieth year, while I was in the citadel of Susa, ² Hanani, one of my brothers, came from Judah with some other men, and I questioned them about the Jewish remnant that survived the exile, and also about Jerusalem. ³ They said to me, “Those who survived the exile and are back in the province are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire.”

⁴ **When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven.** ⁵ Then I said: “O Lord, God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and obey his commands, ⁶ let your ear be attentive and your eyes open to hear the prayer your servant is praying before you day and night for your servants, the people of Israel. I confess the sins we Israelites, including myself and my father’s house, have committed against you. ⁷ We have acted very wickedly toward you. We have not obeyed the commands, decrees and laws you gave your servant Moses.

⁸ “Remember the instruction you gave your servant Moses, saying, ‘If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the nations, ⁹ but if you return to me and obey my commands, then even if your exiled people are at the farthest horizon, I will gather them from there and bring them to the place I have chosen as a dwelling for my Name.’” ¹⁰ “They are your servants and your people, whom you redeemed by your great strength and your mighty hand. ¹¹ O Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of this your servant and to the prayer of your servants who delight in revering your name. Give your servant success today by granting him favor in the presence of this man.” I was cupbearer to the king.

1. **Where have you been too tolerant or taken a neutral position rather than being a voice of truth in your sphere of influence?**
2. **When was a time in your life you overcame fear and led with courage?**
3. **What are some practical ways you can begin to lead with courage in your daily walk with the Lord?**

II. THE COST OF LEADERSHIP

Hebrews 11:24–30 ²⁴ By faith Moses, when he had grown up, **refused to be known** as the son of Pharaoh’s daughter. ²⁵ **He chose** to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a short time. ²⁶ **He regarded** disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because **he was looking ahead to his reward.**

²⁷ By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king’s anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible. ²⁸ By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel. ²⁹ By faith the

people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land; but when the Egyptians tried to do so, they were drowned.³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell, after the people had marched around them for seven days.

Moses' Choices

1. He Refused to Be Known as the Son of Pharaoh's Daughter.
2. He Chose to Be Mistreated Along With the People of God (Declined Pleasures of Sin).
3. He Regarded Disgrace for the Sake of Christ as of Greater Value Than the Treasures of Egypt.
4. He Was Looking Ahead to His Reward.
5. He Left, Not Fearing.
6. He Persevered, He Saw Him Who Is Invisible.
7. He Kept (The Passover & Sprinkling of Blood).

Outcomes In the Lives of Others

1. The People Passed Through the Red Sea.
2. The Walls of Jericho Fell, a New Generation Has a Victory.

4. What are the perceived costs of leading with courage in your life?

III. THE JOY OF GIVING

Mark 12:41–44 ⁴¹ Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. ⁴² But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny. ⁴³ Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, “**I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others.** ⁴⁴ They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on.”

2 Samuel 24:21–24 ²¹ Araunah said, “Why has my lord the king come to his servant?” “To buy your threshing floor,” David answered, “so I can build an altar to the Lord, that the plague on the people may be stopped.” ²² Araunah said to David, “Let my lord the king take whatever pleases him and offer it up. Here are oxen for the burnt offering, and here are threshing sledges and ox yokes for the wood. ²³ O king, Araunah gives all this to the king.” Araunah also said to him, “May the Lord your God accept you.”

²⁴ But the king replied to Araunah, “**No, I insist on paying you for it. I will not sacrifice to the Lord my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing.**” So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen and paid fifty shekels of silver for them.

Exodus 36:3–6 ³ They received from Moses all the offerings the Israelites had brought to carry out the work of constructing the sanctuary. And the people continued to bring freewill offerings morning after morning. ⁴ So all the skilled craftsmen who were doing all the work on the sanctuary left their work ⁵ and said to Moses, “The people are bringing more than enough for doing the work the Lord commanded to be done.” ⁶ Then Moses gave an order and they sent this word throughout the camp: “No man or woman is to make anything else as an offering for the sanctuary.” **And so the people were restrained from bringing more.**

5. What does “sacrificial giving” mean to you?

6. How would you say that giving and joy are connected?

7. Who in your life is someone that you consider a generous person? What traits and values do you notice as they serve others?

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for the honor of serving You and lifting up the name of Jesus in this most unique season. You have put an invitation before us, and we pray to hear Your voice and know what You have asked us to do—nothing less and nothing more. May we not shrink back in fear or turn aside because of anxiety. We ask You to do what we cannot do and pour out Your Spirit in ways we have not seen before. May the fear and reverence of You grow in our hearts. Confirm Your Word with a new power and authority in our midst. We praise You for the privilege of standing together, in Jesus' name. Amen.