

SERMON OUTLINE

SERMON TITLE: Faithfulness

SERMON REFERENCE: Galatians 5:22

LWF SERMON NUMBER: #1444

We are grateful for the opportunity to provide this outline produced from a sermon preached by Adrian Rogers while serving as pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, Tennessee. This outline is intended for your personal, non-commercial use.

In order to ensure our ability to be good stewards of Adrian Rogers' messages, Love Worth Finding has reserved all rights to this content.

Except for your personal, non-commercial use and except for brief quotations in printed reviews, no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means –electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording, or any other– without the prior permission of the publisher.

Copyright ©2023 Love Worth Finding Ministries, Inc.

1) INTRODUCTION

a) Galatians 5:22

i) In this verse, “faith” is better translated as “faithfulness.”

(1) It is not only what we believe, but how we live and what we do as a result of what we believe.

b) Faithfulness is a quality that we all admire.

i) Not only does God admire it, but God also requires it.

(1) 1 Corinthians 4:2

c) It doesn't matter how much ability, personality, or intelligence someone has if they cannot be depended upon.

d) Faithfulness is integrity, honesty, trustfulness, and loyalty.

i) Can we be counted on?

ii) A person is not worth much if he does not have this character quality of faithfulness.

e) Many people are not faithful.

i) There is a spiritual and moral integrity crisis in America.

f) When we meet the Lord, will He be able to say to us, “Well done thou good and faithful servant”?

i) Matthew 25:21

g) Proverbs 25:19

h) Today's message will discuss the marks, motivation, and methods of faithfulness.

2) THE MARKS OF FAITHFULNESS (GALATIANS 5:22)

a) We need to be faithful to our families.

i) Over and over again the Bible speaks of family faithfulness.

ii) If someone is not faithful at home, then he cannot be faithful anywhere else.

(1) The religion that does not begin at home does not begin.

iii) A man needs to be faithful to his wife.

(1) He needs to be morally and sexually faithful.

(a) There is no greater mark of unfaithfulness than adultery.

(i) The Bible says that a man who commits adultery gets a blot that will not be removed.

(2) He does not have to be physically unfaithful to be unfaithful to her.

(a) Many men are married to their jobs.

(b) Some men have a love affair with sports, business, and money that draws them away from their wives.

iv) Many children who are in trouble have a hostility toward their parents.

(1) This hostility is rooted in resentment.

(a) This resentment toward their parents is rooted in the fact that somehow, somewhere, and at some time, their parents have been unfaithful to their children.

- (b) They made promises and commitments to their kids that they did not keep.
 - (i) Children have incredible memories.
 - 1. When parents say something off-handed and do not think about it, the children think about it.
 - v) It would do well for many of us to ask our loved ones if we have ever been faithless.
 - (1) Have we promised and failed to perform?
 - (2) We need to get the record right, ask for forgiveness, and do what we can to make restitution.
 - (3) There is a lot of bitterness and resentment in the hearts of many children because of faithless parents.
- b) We need to be faithful in our finances.
- i) Luke 16:10
 - (1) If we are not faithful in that which is least, then we would not be faithful in that which is much.
 - (2) A good test of what we would do if we had a million dollars is what we are doing with the hundred dollars we do have.
 - (3) If someone steals a hundred dollars, then in God's sight that person may as well have stolen a million dollars.
 - ii) Luke 16:11
 - (1) Another word for "mammon" is "money."
 - (a) "Mammon" is the Old Testament word for "the god of possessions."
 - (2) True riches are spiritual riches.
 - iii) Luke 16:12
 - (1) The test of what we would do in the spiritual realm is seen by what we do in the physical and the monetary realm.
 - (a) If we cannot be trusted with money, then God cannot trust us with spiritual power.
 - (2) Many of us do not have spiritual blessings because we simply have not been faithful with our finances.
 - (a) Because we have not been faithful with our finances, God does not bless us spiritually.
 - (b) Many people get this backwards.
 - (i) They think that if they would just be a good, spiritual person, then God would bless them materially.
 - 1. This passage says the opposite.
 - 2. This passage says that if we get materially right, then God will bless us spiritually.
 - (c) If we will take what God has placed in our trust and be faithful in that which is material, then God will bless us spiritually.
 - iv) The reason why some of us are not getting our prayers answered, why we do not understand the Bible more than we do, and why we have a poor witness is because we have not been faithful in that which is least.

- (1) We have not been faithful in the material things.
- v) 1 Corinthians 16:2
 - (1) In this passage, the Apostle Paul is speaking to every one of us.
 - (2) The first day of the week is the Lord's Day.
 - (a) We are to "lay by him in store".
 - (i) We don't just come to church on Sunday and give by emotion.
 - (ii) We already know what we are going to give.
 - 1. We have laid it by in store.
 - (iii) We are to bring it upon the first day of the week.
 - (3) We give according to the way that God has prospered us.
 - (a) We are to give regularly and faithfully.
 - (b) If God has given much, then we can give much.
 - (c) If God had given little, then our gift may be smaller.
- vi) If we would get faithful in that which is material, then God will bless our churches with spiritual power.
 - (1) We will see souls saved.
- vii) Money is not the important thing; it is only a test.
 - (1) If God cannot trust us with money, then He cannot trust us in other areas.
- c) We need to be faithful with our friends.
 - i) Proverbs 17:17
 - ii) A friend is someone who multiplies our joys and divides our griefs.
 - iii) A friend is someone who comes in when all the world has gone out.
 - iv) True friendship stands when all else has fallen.
 - (1) Are you a friend like that?
- d) We need to be faithful to our church.
 - i) Romans 12:5
 - (1) When we are away when the church body meets, then a part of the body is absent.
 - (a) There is a rending of the body.
 - ii) Hebrews 10:25
 - (1) Some will say that they do not have to go to church to be a Christian.
 - (a) This is technically true, but the Christianity of a person who willfully and deliberately neglects the assembly is doubtful.
 - (2) We are not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together.
 - iii) We do not go to church for what we can get, but for what we can give.
 - (1) This is not just talking about money.
 - (2) Hebrews 10:25 tells us to exhort one another as we see the day approaching.
 - (a) We are living in dangerous and deceptive times, and we owe to one another a fearful loyalty and a faithfulness.
 - iv) When we go to church, we are saying that God and the pastor and the members of that church are important to us.
 - (1) We are members one of another.

- e) We need to be faithful to the faith.
 - i) We need to be faithful to the Word of God.
 - (1) There are times today when people are taking the Word of God and shredding, mimicking, and dissecting it.
 - (a) They set themselves up in judgment of the Word of God.
 - (2) We are not to judge the Word of God.
 - (a) The Word of God is to judge us.
 - (i) Hebrews 4:12
 - ii) It has been said that the chief danger of the century is going to be forgiveness without repentance, salvation without regeneration, religion without the Holy Spirit, and Heaven without Hell.
 - iii) We are one generation away from paganism.
 - (1) If we do not pass the faith on to the next generation, then they will not have it.
 - iv) We are to be stewards of the faith of God.
- 3) THE MOTIVATION FOR FAITHFULNESS (1 JOHN 1:9)
- a) We do not have any character if we are not faithful.
 - i) We have no character if we cannot be counted on and are not dependable.
 - b) A higher motivation of faithfulness is the incredible faithfulness of God toward us.
 - i) God is faithful in so many areas.
 - ii) 1 John 1:9
 - (1) What a joy to know that every time, any time, and all of the time, if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
 - iii) 1 Corinthians 10:13
 - (1) It would be a terrible world if we had no promise of victory over the power of Satan and the pull of the flesh.
 - (a) But we can wake up every morning and know that God is faithful to keep us if we will just let Him.
 - iv) The devil can never take us out of the hand of God.
 - (1) 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24
 - (2) The God who saves us is the God who keeps us.
 - v) The Bible says that His mercies are new every morning, and His compassions fail not.
 - (1) Lamentations 3:22-23
 - vi) We need to thank God that great is His faithfulness.
 - c) Since God is so faithful to us, we need to return that faithfulness and be faithful to Him.
- 4) THE METHOD OF FAITHFULNESS (LUKE 16:10)
- a) We need to be faithful in the small things.

- i) Luke 16:10
 - ii) Everything big is made up of something smaller.
 - (1) Our bodies are made up of various members.
 - (a) These various members are made up of cells.
 - (b) Those cells are made up of molecules.
 - (c) Those molecules are made up of atomic structure.
 - (d) That atomic structure has within it even smaller particles that can be split apart.
 - (2) The ocean is made up of drops of water, and all of those drops of water are molecules.
 - (3) Time is made up of ages.
 - (a) Ages are made up of millenniums.
 - (b) Millenniums are made up of centuries.
 - (c) Centuries are made up of years, and years are made up of months, etc.
 - (4) Our entire lives are not made up of just one or two big decisions.
 - (a) It is day by day.
 - (i) It is honesty, a smile, kindness, warmth, and integrity.
 - iii) It is the small things that really count.
 - iv) When we are faithful in the little things, we are already faithful in that which is much because the only way to get big things is through the little things.
 - v) David was a man after God's own heart.
 - (1) Before David could be the king, he had to be the shepherd.
 - (a) He watched over a few sheep before he could watch over an entire nation.
 - (2) Before he killed Goliath, he had already slain a lion and a bear.
 - (3) He was faithful in that which was least; therefore, he could be faithful in that which was much.
 - vi) Parents need to let their children bring an offering to church.
 - (1) Let them take it out of their own allowance.
 - (2) Children need to learn to give so that when they are adults, they will continue to give to others.
 - (3) The point of this is to teach them to be faithful in the small things, and then they will be faithful in that which is great.
- b) We are to be faithful in the secret things.
- i) Who we are in the dark, when no one else knows, is who we really are.
 - ii) Here is a test of our character:
 - (1) What would we do if we knew that no one else would ever know, either good or bad?
 - iii) We are what we are in secret, nothing more and nothing less.
 - (1) We see it, and God sees it.
 - iv) We are to be faithful in the secret things, whether anyone else knows or not.

- c) We are to be faithful in the sacred things.
 - i) This is the root of all faithfulness.
 - ii) We should keep our hearts warm and right with God.
 - iii) 2 Timothy 4:6-8
 - (1) The Apostle Paul was in prison waiting to be executed.
 - (2) He kept the faith.
 - (3) He fought a good fight.
 - (4) He finished his course.
 - (a) Matthew 25:21
 - iv) The Apostle Paul was a great Christian.
 - (1) He was faithful to the faith.
 - (2) He was faithful to the fight.
 - (3) He was faithful to the finish.

5) CONCLUSION

- a) What do you want for your own life?
 - i) Do you want to end well and to finish your course with joy?
- b) The fruit of the Spirit is faithfulness.
 - i) Galatians 5:22
- c) Revelation 2:10
- d) 1 Corinthians 4:2
- e) Ask the Lord to teach you to be faithful.
- f) Faithfulness begins when we have a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.
- g) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- h) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
 - i) Romans 3:23
 - ii) Romans 10:9-10
 - iii) Romans 10:13
 - iv) Acts 16:31
 - v) John 3:16