

Don't Give Up Keep Watering

by Shane Idleman

This sermon emphasizes the importance of perseverance and not giving up, using the analogy of watering a garden to symbolize continuous effort and nourishment. It addresses the need for parents, both mothers and fathers, to lead their families spiritually, highlighting the role of prayer, intercession, and standing against the cultural norms. The sermon stresses the significance of spiritual maturity, avoiding carnality, and focusing on God's sovereignty and faithfulness in bringing growth and victory.

Scripture: Galatians 6:9, Psalms 89:20, Isaiah 59:16, Psalms 34:17, Matthew 6:33, 1 Corinthians 3:1, Nehemiah 1:4, John 4:13, Psalms 91:14

Topics: "Perseverance", "Spiritual Leadership"

Description

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Transcript

This morning is don't give up Don't give up keep watering Don't give up keep watering and I have not forgotten what day it is Don't worry We all know that we're here to thank and appreciate our moms Mother's Day. It's a time. We'll remember them Let's clap for them.

And of course I as I mentioned the first service, I think my mom Who's been just an inspiration my wife and mother-in-law? And we thank all the moms out there. What you do is is something that men cannot do Tried to watch all five of our kids one day for an hour and it was uh, it was tough, especially at the little baby But I do that often I just I know how hard it is and we just look to you We thank you and we want to honor you and this message though is actually for both men and women So don't tune it out just because it's Mother's Day. It's a very important principle This is actually a biblical principle.

Keep watering. Keep watering. Don't give up.

I'm gonna get to in just a minute But I'm gonna read a when I was preparing this message I came across a short story it's not true, of course But it goes something like this God was making woman. He was putting into her compassion and understanding and Fortitude and strength and all these things and the angel said

to God that's too much. You can't put that much in one model Why don't you rest for a while and resume your creating tomorrow? The Lord said no, I cannot I'm Choosing I'm creating someone very special I've already come up with a model that can heal herself When she is sick who can feed a family of six with one pound of hamburger Who can persuade a nine-year-old to take a shower and Do many other things then the angel looked at the model of motherhood a little more closely and said she's too soft.

Oh But she's tough said the Lord you'll be surprised at how much this mother can do Can she think asked the angel not only can she think said the Lord but she can reason she can compromise She can persuade she can convict she can embrace she can love all these different things Then the angel reached out and touched her cheek. This one has a leak. He said I Told you you couldn't put that much into one model and the Lord said that's not a leak.

That's a tear What's a tear for us the angel? Well, it's for joy and for sadness for sorrow for disappointment And the angel said you're a genius To put that into her and the Lord said oh, but I didn't put that in there Life brings that out Life brings that out when you sow in tears, you will reap and joy. There's something about tears There's something about Travelling for our families. There's something about a Just grieving in a good way this this anguish for what is going on and I've noticed without that there There is no prayer closet it's that anguish and that contending for our families and and Contending for our marriages and contending for our nation anybody want to contend for our nation these days Just read the the headlines.

We have lost our mind and it's that anguish that drives you to the prayer closet So it's tears because those tears are do not go unanswered God hears the cries and prayers of his Saints And I'll get to that in a minute, but I want to jump to chapter 3 in 1st Corinthians We're going through the book of 1st Corinthians answers for a confused church is the series and Paul is writing to the church and remember this is a living Vibrant church and did you know that living vibrant churches need rules? Just like your children just like our kids We need rules and so Paul would would give out these these commands to the church in Corinth. It was a pretty carnal church They were growing they were new they were abusing the gifts They were allowing all kinds of things and Paul in this chapter. He said something very interesting He said brethren.

I Could not speak to you as spiritual people but as carnal Now imagine them receiving this that would be like me coming up here and hey guys just want to let you know I can't speak to you as spiritual people this morning. You're all carnal nobody's getting up yet and Leaving but that's what he's doing. He's writing to the church and he's saying I want to speak to you as spiritually mature people But you're carnal Your babes in Christ That's okay.

If you're a new believer But he said I fed you with milk and not with solid food. How many of you know, that's very good for a newborn Don't put a stake in front of her or him They have to be fed milk to match their their development So I fed you with milk and not with solid food for until now for until now you were not able to receive it So Paul's basically saying hey, we're at a point now Where I've been feeding you the milk, you know the elementary things and the the simple things and but but now But now you need to step up you need to take the meat of God's Word and that is meat is Going deeper with God and in times of prayer and worship and fasting and pressing into God that's going deeper There's a hunger there. There's a there's a meat.

Oh that his word would be meat to me and strength to my body and Then he said even now you are still not able You're still carnal Okay, so what's going on Where's this all coming from? Well, Paul doesn't leave us guessing he clarifies here for you are still carnal for where there is Where they put are so I go for

where there are envy strife and Division among you you are are you not carnal and behaving like mere men? Basically saying church. Why is there envy in here? Why is there strife? Why is there division? Why is there all this this is carnal nature? This is that carnality in a person that that it's in all of us But the immature believer walks by this mindset their character is reflected of this they're envious and they're there's they love strife and division and Then he said for when when someone says I'm of Paul and someone else says I'm of Apollos and and I'm of this person Are you not carnal? So that's what carnality is in a nutshell. It's what Paul just defined I'm going to get to that in a minute.

But before I get there, I think he's talking about breast milk and Milk of the word milk He's comparing with a mother because breast milk provides the ideal nutrition for infants It has a nearly perfect mix of vitamins protein and fat everything your baby needs to grow Okay, but at a certain age That's real cute at six months, but it's six What happens the nutritional needs of the baby begin to exceed what can be produced by the mother's milk? Same way as a person grows in Christ There begins that deeper walk has to form Always always stick with what God wants to do Maybe just a shout out for For those who want to keep doing that much better choice than formulas, by the way, just a side note for you What what comes from the mom how God designed us and remember what you consume? So does the baby and You can bring all that nutrients in that life to the child So that's what's happening when the nutrient need exceeds the milk. It's time to increase to solid food intake So here's a spiritual parallel Newborn agains, which is somebody who's newly born again. They're young in the faith.

They need milk God loves you and encourages you and just start to read the Bible and say a quick little prayer on your way to work and You start to you know, nourish them in that encourage. I mean, you don't want to overwhelm them Hey, I just I just repent and believe they got baptized last week. I'm ready.

Okay. Now you need to start on a week fast. I Know what is this? It's not necessarily bad if person is led to do that, but there's a there's a seasoning There's a discipleship and they're growing in God's Word You don't have to explain a lot of big theological terms to someone who's new in the faith, you know Well, let's talk about pneumatology and theology and all these things and like what is that? I just love Jesus So but there's a time and a place for all these things So the definition of spiritual immaturity is this according to Paul You're still carnal if there's envy strife and division among you Are you not carnal and believing and actually act actually behaving like mere men? Like the world is what he's saying.

So do you want to have a quick family meeting? I Was encouraging Let's talk about these three Envy what does that mean a feeling of discontent or resentment? Against someone who has something you want or their circumstance It's a circumstance you want and you begin to envy that person now as a word of encouragement that Not good characteristic that ungodly feeling comes in many of us Many of us we feel that but what do you do with it say Lord, I'm thankful for what you gave me That's not a right thought. I'm not gonna go there And we give it back to God and we don't entertain that but those who entertain that they begin to envy Why don't I live there my marriage and their home and their money and we begin to envy what it does It starts to you start to get bitter inside at God and you start to put them down You'll start to pull them down. So now you've got this envy going on You're not satisfied in what God gave you and that will Oh Envy and bitterness.

It's a root of all kinds of ungodliness Because it's just evil at its core. It's it's not being happy when content with what God has given But then strife he says if envy isn't bad enough here comes strife Do you know what strife is? It's causing conflict You ever have family members or friends when you see them coming you're like, oh no It's gonna be like rubbing sandpaper on my hand You know those people right? Oh

What's wrong with them? They're always There's conflict. There's friction.

There's discord. There's disagreement. There's arguing arguing There's bickering and praise God.

It's not the the characteristic of this church But there are a lot of churches where it's just the clicks and if you don't do things the way we've done it There's no move of the spirit. There's no prayer There's just this this growing resentment and this this sides divided here and the sides divided here and it's over the they're upset over the color of the carpet and All these paintings and painting of the wall just there's so much division in the church. So you see this church.

They're envious They're coming in. They're just full of strife and then he says divisions Divisions for when one says I'm a Paul and another says I am of Apollos. Are you not carnal? Here's what's happening.

We do the same thing today many people We become divisive. I listen to this speaker I Gravitate towards these beliefs and there was the other person says I'm a this person I'm a this person. I listen to this person or I'm a this denomination I'm Baptist And Baptist got it, right What does this person say? I'm Pentecostal Least we're not dead like you Baptist and another person says I'm I'm reformed theology I'm very smart And I can quote John Calvin and all the five tulips points of tulips total depravity and unconditional election limited atonement irresistible grace and Perseverance of the Saints and and I'm Calvin And then somebody else quotes John Wesley.

Well, I'm Wesley I'm of this and and we get out and we get in these little tribes in these little camps and and that's okay to have beliefs and Discuss them, but when it begins to bring division into the body and you begin to look at yourself as superior and you begin to Put others down and there's there's we come into church Let me just tell you this unless you're not sure when you stand in heaven There is zero denominations. No denominations You're not going to argue about about all these other non essentials You're going to say all hail King Jesus now. I love that song all hail King Jesus That's going to be the song throughout heaven So it's it's it's this corrupt carnal church, and that's really what an immature believer is That's why I often say that you can be an immature believer even though you've been a Christian 20 years or 30 years and They're still operating in this flesh.

You know that person you call them here comes some negativity They're gonna put down the church Or cause division or because who we should be protecting each other Do you go and put you down your family and your kids in front of others and your wife? I mean some people do it's not good, but you protect them you guard them, right? As much as it might my son and daughter sometimes don't get along If some other boy tries to do something mean to her oh watch out right because you're protecting See that's how the church should be we're protecting each other so Paul is calling them out. Why are you I'm after Paul I'm after a Paul Osen, and he's saying no It's it's about Christ and who Christ is and really this type of identification is pride filled filled with pride Carnal Christians are filled with pride. They don't want to be challenged unless they're wanting to change I Mean I get this all the time Anytime I challenge carnal Christians, whether it's an articles or sermons Their only response is you're arrogant You're legalistic You're mean-spirited No, I just don't think you should watch those movies and get drunk all the time I'm not arrogant You're being carnal in your nature, and you don't like people calling you out You have no prayer life.

You don't walk closely with the Lord you're bored during worship looking at your clock That's carnal. That's carnality. You're allowing the flesh to govern your decisions So mom and dads we have the same role to play as Paul Did you know that we have the same role to play as Paul feed them solid food Feed them

solid food even if they don't listen right away.

That's why the title is don't give up keep watering Don't give up keep watering you want to see how hard it is just try to do a family devotional I just I haven't done one in three days. I want to get back to it It's it's sometimes it gets so challenging I was just doing one last week on we're going through systematic theology for kids And it's doesn't you don't need a lot of time you want to pray with them and teach them And I was I thought I was doing good on Talking about how we know who God is through his word through his invisible attributes things are clearly seen through morality in our heart And I'm like oh, this is great. I'm like do you have any questions and my six-year-old raised her hand Like Kylie all right, what's your question? She goes? I want some of Gracie's peanut butter No, no, no, no, that's not right now questions about what we're talking about But you fight for you contend for you keep watering you keep persevering you don't give up You have to fight for this.

It doesn't come naturally what comes naturally That's just all glued to the entertainment center for hours on and that comes naturally You have to fight for this. I'm saving this for Father's Day, but I'm gonna read it this morning In the 1940s the church in Germany was weak filled with unbelievers or carnal Christians The church would sing louder when the train cars that were taking the Jews to the death camps passed by so they wouldn't hear the wailing Of the people and much of was was considered the Protestant Church in Germany actually supported Hitler But think about it today a lot of the church Supports agendas that are clearly outside of God's will The church is even divided Anytime I say anything about LGBT or gay rights and gay marriage and loving that struggle But also preaching the truth of God's Word that it's not right. It's not good.

It's not given. It's not God given It's not godly the majority of emails I get are from Christians You're a hater you're actually back to this you're a hater you're arrogant you're mean-spirited. No, it's just I'm just reading the Bible if God Created that and he'd say fine with that.

I'm just reading the Bible That's what God's truth is and we have to not be scared of that. We we actually need more Bonhoeffer's we need more Niemoller's and and preaching and and and being bold in the midst of a dying and decaying culture Moms and dads don't give up because I'm tempted to do that. You look at the news.

You say what is the point? What is the point? But remember you plus God is a majority There's no majority above God We need people to stand up and be bold to pray and pull down heaven The church is sleeping low to sleep how we load to sleep. Well, here's a few ways the NFL Avengers Game of Thrones smartphones, whatever it is rock-a-bye, baby Shane you saying I can't go the movies Of course not But if all you do is get your mind focused on today's culture today's world today's media You love the things of the world do not love the things of a God God Then you do have a problem because you cannot serve two masters The Bible says you either love one and despise the other or be loyal to one and hate the other you cannot serve both God In this world, where are your affections going? Where is your love? Where is your heart? Where's compassion? Where where do you drift in the right direction or towards the world? It's it's very clear in Scripture Where there is no holy living there is no Holy Spirit Did you know you only pray as well as you live Ian Bowne said this many years ago. I highlight him.

He is absolutely right He goes on to explain it better But you're you you pray as well as you live in other words You show me somebody holy filled with God's Spirit living for God. They've got a prayer life. That's powerful Somebody who's carnal has no prayer life Your prayer is only as powerful as your life.

They go together. Holy living produces Holy Spirit inspired prayer Nobody's gonna live carnally all week and then come and fall on the face before God for an hour and a half and pull down heaven and contend for their family Why because you go? That's boring Listen, it's true. Thank God not in this church a lot but out there I believe I run to more people out there and in ministry out there is just as much but I run to people and I Say pray for my son pray for my daughter.

I Say I will but have you thought about fasting and coming to early morning worship and and spending so no I can't do that I'm too busy Fasting I love Burger King. See we want God to move but we don't want it to cost us anything David said I will not give God something that cost me nothing Really the cost shows the seriousness of the commitment When something when we're serious when we're serious If we can instantly swap the Chinese government with our government overnight, you'd become very serious I bet we could fill up this church every morning for prayer Because the seriousness of what's going on so practical application so far are you encouraging? spiritual health in your family Mom's dads. Are you encouraging that? Are you striving towards that? You don't see results many times.

I don't either I don't either I'm gonna jump ahead and tell you about the Chinese bamboo tree Anybody heard of this wonderful tree You plant the seed and you water and you water and you water Water see I'm going Months and months years go by Research it. I would have given up if I don't see anything sprouting within a couple weeks or a month. I'm done But they know they water they water they water they water year after year I don't know how many years like four or five six years Then it shoots up 80 feet in six weeks The Chinese bamboo tree, but see we would have given up but you don't give up on God That's what you do.

You water and you water even when you don't see anything. I tell you that's true persevering That's true praying. That's true praying.

It's easy to pray for the prodigal daughter when you get the Texas's mom. Happy Mother's Day I'll come see you God's working in my heart. Oh, you'll rejoice But when you don't get the text when you don't hear from anyone That's when you got to go to prayer and anguish and pull down heaven and say God I don't see anything but your word is true.

Your word is faithful I trust in you when Zion travail sons and daughters are born he who sows and tears will Reap and joy and you seek and you push and you persevere because the results are up to God not you That's the secret Persevere and I thought a lot of people say I want to honor my mother. What do I do? What gift should I buy? If you truly want to honor someone finish strong Finish well Don't go get a card and Rosa that's wonderful, but finish strong be men and women of character. I Spoke at a memorial Friday the best friend of my dad passed away And I spoke at his memorial It was so ironic where he was being buried about 50 feet away Was my dad's headstone the same grave site same location.

I Looked at their kids are actually older than me And I said the best way to honor him is to finish strong Isn't that what all parents want I Just see it so much especially in our culture They want to raise the next Michael Jordan or Mike Trout Say I don't care if he can hit a baseball. I want to see him have some character. I want to see him treat his spouse Well, I want to see him raise his children in the fear and admonition of the Lord You will be swimming against the culture Christian get that out of your mind right now That you're going to be a friend of the world because when you say you I'm gonna follow Christ You're swimming against the current Everything you do how you spend your money your marriage your movie choices how you live is against the culture.

It's called counter Cultural you go against the flow of society But we want to be part of it and enjoy it and I'm all for enjoying life, thank you But true Christianity Goes to war with the culture Did you know that you are at war with the culture Do you know I'm dressed for battle so are many of you Where's your AR-15? Where's your bulletproof vest? Where's all that? Oh, no. No This is spiritual battle Paul said the weapons of our warfare are not carnal But they're mighty through God for the pulling down of strongholds casting down arguments at every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God Watch out for the trickery the wiles of the enemy therefore putting on the breastplate of righteousness right standing before God Thank God for Jesus Christ and living holy Righteous life putting on the belt of truth and allowing the truth to gird and hold everything together Shot and covering your feet with the preparation of the gospel and going out and being a minister. I told Satan this week I said, I'm gonna grab you by the throat and I'm gonna choke you.

I'm so sick of what you're doing in this culture. I Have a confession too. I have a confession.

I cussed a little I know it's hard Sometimes I can let that that guy have it and you have the shield of faith The shield of faith don't give up isn't that true faith Because faith is the evidence of things hoped for the evidence of things not seen You're not exercising faith if you see the answer Faith is actually believing and trusting God despite what I see For without faiths it's in faith, it's impossible to please God why because I'm trusting you despite how things look Bruce Ball in an article recently wrote something amazing He said here are some of the things some of our small children are learning today. They learn that the world's morality is The way to go if it feels right it is right They learn humanism God doesn't exist and we're fully capable of everything ourselves. Hope God help us They learn that man descended from monkeys Has no value we live in a society of that Jeremiah spoke of a society that does not even know how to blush Did you know it's okay to blush? We've been so Desensitized now we don't even blush What used to alarm the church 40 years ago now amazes the church now amuses the church We would have never allowed into our homes now, it's amusement And be careful because gradually the unthinkable becomes tolerable Then acceptable then legal then praised are we getting close The unthinkable becomes tolerable then acceptable then legal then praised We need godly mothers and fathers He wrote who will stand up and say I will teach my children to walk in the way of the Lord We cannot let the most important thing in our children's lives be left up to chance or up to somebody else's false teaching We must stand up and be accountable as parents for our children's spiritual safety Have you ever thought about that the most important decision your children will ever make is what do they do with Jesus Christ? Or your grandchildren any grandchildren grandparents out there.

There's a lot the power of interceding And here's where it gets encouraging verse 5 Paul says who then is Paul Paul saying who is Apollos? But ministers through whom you believed as the Lord gave to each one of us see that's why you want to be careful Don't exalt man Please Exalt all hail King Jesus Don't exalt man Preachers pastor they should not be Exalted they are fellow workmen running going alongside of you But we elevate these people and God said no I I called Paul I gave to him and Paul says I planted a Paulist watered, but God Gave the increase That's why you see some of those big rallies Billy Graham used to do a great glory all these people come down you like oh Man amazing oh no no those seeds were planted years ago from praying parents praying Grandparents pleading before God pleading before God don't give them the credit I know they wouldn't want it why because God gives the increase this will remove a lot of stress from your life Because it's not up to you what the results are your kids are not going in a healthy direction you say Lord Go go get them I've done all I'm not discounting important parenting, but I'm saying we put too much. Oh look at what I've you know It's all my fault. It's all this God's children

are Bill He gives the increase your job is to water and water and water and pray and not give up And I do believe if you train a child in the way, they should go when they're old They will not depart from that way.

They will eventually get back. Why Shane I've been praying. I've been praying Here's why in the human heart there's something evil called pride and they will fight God as long as they can and Usually it gets worse before it gets better Because they've got to break that pride out the carnality in the church it happens in all churches oh God even in this church even in this church I Talked to a lady who's ready to move out.

She's had enough in this church The husband puts on worship music so she doesn't know he's looking at porn in the room next door What's wrong with us? We have lost our mind the carnality of the church thinking that God doesn't care that he just winks at sin. That's no big deal We must bring back the fear of God and the reverence of God in the adoration of God and sing those songs all hail King Jesus all hail King Jesus Because God sees through your carnality You think we're fooling God? You're fooling yourself more than you're fooling God and God gets us to a point of desperation But again like a garden like the bamboo your words begin to grow in time Galatians 6 9 I love this verse let us not become weary in doing good for all For I'm sorry for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not what give up So you have to remember this I heard this from David Wilkerson as well Any time God begins to renew a church or a nation or state? He puts a man or a woman into a position of anguish. He basically baptizes them in anguish What does that mean you begin to feel what God feels you see the sin and the depravity you see the direction of some of? These school districts and the curriculum you see governors of our states allowing us to abort children at nine months And you begin to be anguished and you begin to cry out.

Oh God Oh God Hear the cries of our of our parents and hear the cries of our children and you cry out and God hears that cry It's a lot different than just walking around well Lord help us bless us. Yeah, whatever He hears the cry of his children the anguish the brokenness come on. You know what his parents Don't you? Just this week.

I'm laying on the couch reading a book. Oh, it's so relaxing You can hear don't you love to hear your kids playing outside? Oh, they're getting along. It's great.

It's wonderful. I'm sitting there. It's just Taking it in but then but then I hear crying Sounds like somebody's getting beat up daddy daddy my little daddy daddy daddy Oh that book I was through that book to the ground I almost broke down the screen door and I took off the bike that fell on her and I threw that bike and I said Here I am see what brought me there.

It's the cries and saying daddy daddy daddy I need you at some point church You gotta humble yourself and fall on the altar and say daddy. We need you Daddy, we are broken daddy work. We're calling good evil evil good.

We're a perverse society We're leading our children astray Oh daddy How God help us and you go into anguish and in that pit of anguish and despair That's when God says I hear you. I hear you. He calls us to intercede Look at all the scriptures especially in the Old Testament dealing with intercession He told the prophet Isaiah He said I saw there was no man no man and I wondered why there was no one there to intercede for the people Saw him he said therefore he said I was going to destroy the people had not Moses interceded for the people What about Ezekiel incredible book of the Bible He told Ezekiel I sought for a man from among them Who would build the wall and stand in the gap before me on behalf of the people but I found no one Listen you can go throughout the whole Bible and when the walls of Jerusalem

were torn down the people were in distress They told Nehemiah the king saw Nehemiah's face.

He said what's wrong with you. This is nothing but sadness of heart he said the place of my father's tombs lies in waste and he became a man who took on a Anguish and he and he fasted and he made a difference and any life she took on this anguish and Paul for the church Paul weeping for the church saying Oh God, he even said I'd be accursed if you would save my people There's an anguish Jesus Oh Jerusalem. Did you know Jesus Christ wept over the city of Jerusalem? He looked over her and he said I see when Titus is coming in 7 AD I see in 40 years from now when he's gonna wipe out the city million Jews slaughtered blood running down the streets I can see it yet.

Your visitation is right here. Your Messiah is right here Oh Jerusalem, oh, I want to gather you as a mother gathers her children But you were not willing pride of the heart Pride of the human heart to wait me for me to start preaching it already happened. So We're almost done Traditionally, this is a day when we give back to moms or cherish moms You might be married to a mom as well husband You've got to finish well You've got to finish well Men you are called to lead your family you're called to die for your family I Better stop I'm just liar.

I'm just tired of Christian men who are lazy They don't want to lead their families. They don't want to pray. They don't want to worship.

They want to complain They want to bicker. They want to look at porn. They want to look at sports sports They don't want to have anything to do with training and guiding and leading the family I'm tired of it So here's just the final closing thought don't give up keep watering Don't give up keep watering That water brings nourishment just a few weeks ago.

My kids say where they plant a little garden. I said dad All the flowers are dying And there was brown was coming on the sides I said no It's not we need to pick up the what the watering the watering see the Sun is the Sun heats them the the elements the wind it begins to you that water has to Increase you have to bring in more nutrients than what's being taken away Same thing spiritually how in the world are you going to get through in these dire times with once coming to church on Sunday? That's the nourishment You need more water more water though That's what Jesus said he who comes to me if you believe on me out of the scriptures say out of your belly will flow Rivers of lot of loving water. He stood up and among the city I guarantee he wasn't quiet and he said whoever thirsts Whoever thirsts come after me the fountain of living water He said on the well with the woman At the well, and he said woman if you drink of this water You will never thirst again in this this wonderful picture We have of taking in more of God and more of God Did you know that the more you take in of God you don't get full and sick of it like food It has the opposite effect the more you want and the more you want more of God and you're hungry for the things of God and And trust as we close this remember it's God's sovereignty Resting God trusting God water water do whatever you can't don't give up allow God to bring the increase Allow God to choose and do what he wants.

I remember when he when he chose David. It was amazing He chose a shepherd boy to be a king and He gets right to the point in Psalm 89. He says I've exalted David.

I've chosen David I found David David didn't find me. I found David. I called David.

What did I do? I took my holy oil and I anointed him a king above Over my people and I strengthened him with my right arm when God says I strengthen you watch out because he'll strengthen you He said I strengthened David with my right arm. I lifted him up. No enemy will come against him No one will plague

him.

No one will outwit him God goes on to say I will beat down David's enemies New King James, look it up. I will beat down before the young adult saying I'm gonna beat you down God was saying it some couple hundred thousand years ago 200 2,800 years ago be exact right in there Or 3,000 years possibly. I will beat down your enemies because of my faithfulness.

I will see you through And just remember a praying mom is stronger than any earthly ruler and the dad as well Your prayers you are stronger Did you know that you're stronger than any earthly ruler when you pray and you pull down heaven because prayer can do anything that God can do Let that sink in Prayer can do anything that God can do That's why the enemy wants to distract us Listen, you can tell how popular churches or I'm sorry You can you can you can see how popular a pastor is by who shows up on Sunday You can tell how popular Jesus is by who shows up at the prayer meeting That's how you gauge the health of a church That's how you gauge the health of a believer through the prayer closet through the prayer meetings and pressing in for God So I don't want to close though with all saying this as well and I want to give you an invitation Maybe your parents have been praying for you. Maybe your mom or your grandparents We don't know but if you came here not knowing who Jesus Christ is I want that to change this morning for you. Don't allow pride to keep beating you Don't don't don't keep fighting God because of pride why I want to understand everything.

Well, so do I But I realize that's not gonna happen. I like what somebody said I'm not I'm more concerned with what I do know in the Bible than what I don't know about the Bible What I do know is we are all sinners Under God's wrath and condemnation And we need to turn to Christ and be saved and be set free So if you don't know in this morning, you've been going through the motions I want to encourage you take that step. The Bible says just repent and believe Just repent and believe in the gospel.

Do you truly know Jesus Christ? Do you truly know about him or do you know him you have that relationship with him? What a special day on Mother's Day for moms who have been praying for the children They're closed with a verse from Psalms from the Psalms God says because he can obviously say she in there because they have set their love upon me They will safely abide in my presence. I will deliver them. I will set them high.

I will be with them in times of trouble Where are you setting your love? Where are you setting your affections? Who do you love? Listen is God who you love on Sunday? Who do you love on Monday? Tuesday Wednesday, Thursday Friday Seek ye first the kingdom of God and everything else will be added to you. God's got to be the priority We've got to bring God back to the forefront

Video: <https://sermonindex2.b-cdn.net/u0QfluuKEQc.mp4>

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