

Unchanging Life Principles

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I. Introduction.

A. Time flies fast.

B. Personal testimony with unchanging life principles.

1. We possess the power of the Word of God and the power of a personal testimony.

2. We all have a testimony, and with it no man can gainsay. (Revelation 12:11).

II. Unchanging life principles.

A. The road to peace with God can be long both in distance and in time with many people.

1. The speaker's father had him psychoanalyzed because of his faith. He gave the psychologist his testimony. In response the psychologist said he wished that he had what the speaker had.

2. Eventually the speaker led his father to Christ on his death bed. (Acts 16:31)

3. The speaker was born in Salem, Oregon. Salem means "peace," but he was a long way from peace.

4. The speaker was baptized before he went off battle in WWII, but his baptism meant nothing to him.

B. Man reaps all that he sows. (Job 10:14, Galatians 6:7, 1 Timothy 5:24, Proverbs 23:17)

C. The small incidents in life are very important.

1. Some only think the big things are important.

2. After a brawl in Australia, the speaker stole goods from a shoe repairman and began to see how wicked he was. (Psalm 119:67)

3. The speaker was shot in 1945. One of his friends was saved by "the miracle of the red socks."

4. It is the little foxes that destroy the vines.

D. All people come to the crossroads of life.

1. This is a decision to follow God or to go one's own way.
2. This will change the way you witness—whether you do it even when it is inconvenient or not. (Proverbs 8:1-5)
3. Man's extremity is God's opportunity. There are four kinds of sinners that represent all mankind: the wanderer, the desperate one, the indulger and the adventurer. (Psalm 107:131)
4. We want to take every opportunity to stand in the crossroads when a person gets there. We need to be faithful at all times to be there when it happens.

E. God looks for men and women to show others the way.

1. We are to stand in the gap—help the men in the trenches. (Ezekiel 22:30)
2. Under deep conviction of sin the speaker began to seek out God. He only knew the Lord's prayer and the child's prayer and so prayed them. He began reading a Gideon's New Testament. He asked friends about God. He asked the chaplain about God. God used men and hoards of Gideons in his final conversion.

F. God looks upon the heart of men.

1. The speaker had difficulty with cursing as a young believer and began saying the "Our Father" whenever he wanted to curse, which helped him to cool down. (Philippians 1:6)
2. While the speaker on the outside was rough, he was very sensitive to Christ in his heart. (1 Samuel 16:6-13)

G. The Word of God is the key to salvation.

1. Although we have many Bible translations we neglect the Bible.
2. The speaker gave his life to Christ after seeing the life of Christ in the Word. (Psalm 107:20)
3. We are not to depend upon intellect or persuasion but God's Word.

H. The cross is God's chosen instrument for salvation.

1. The written Word of God reveals the living Word who died on Calvary for man's sins.

2. Methods change, but the heart of the gospel never changes.

3. Paul disclaimed all earthly attainments in the power of the cross that he could know Christ. (Philippians 3:7-10, Galatians 6:14)

Application questions.

1. What forces were primarily at work in the speaker's life to bring him to a personal relationship with Christ?

2. What stood out to you about his testimony? Which principle was most meaningful to you? Explain.

3. What are you doing to share the gospel? List two things that you can do this week to position yourself to share the Good News. Be creative.
