MAINTAINING MOMENTUM *Serious men - Prescott* 2 Samuel 5:17–25

An observation over the past few months - there is a tangible acceleration of Gods help and breakthrough in our church - something we have been praying for and contending for - very exciting but also sobering to remember momentum God is giving us must be maintained.

God has given us spiritual breakthrough, but it's our responsibility to build upon that victory and maintain the momentum.

I. SPIRITUAL FIGHT

A. Spiritual Warfare v17 - when the Philistines heard that David was king - **they wanted to kill him**

a) True for every believer - the powers of hell will oppose everything God loves

Ephesians 6:12 *Our fight is not against people on earth but against the rulers and authorities and the powers of this world's darkness, against the spiritual powers of evil in the heavenly world.*

2. Opposition against the church

a) The Church can be opposed Supernaturally by hell

(1) Blocked fruitfulness / odd sickness / people outside the church saying wicked things against the church

Philippians 3:6 *I was so enthusiastic* ***I tried to hurt the church.*** *No one could find fault with the way I obeyed the law of Moses.*

3. Opposition against your life personally

a) Spiritual fight will effect your life personally / Personal dominion and breakthrough / personal opposition to Gods will in your life

B. When God begins to move

1. Spiritual fight must be fought in a spiritual way

2 Samuel 5:19 *And David inquired of the Lord, "Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will you give them into my hand?" And the Lord said to David, "Go up, for I will certainly give the Philistines into your hand."*

a) *Here we see this principle - David Prayed for strategy — God show us how to fight*

PG "You cannot win spiritual battles without a spiritual lifestyle."

2. Thats what every disciple must do — that to learn how to pray for strategies

a) Wisdom - God there are things I don't know … show me what to do … expose what's blocking fruitfulness

b) Spiritual Direction - This is more than just presenting God with a laundry list of stuff you want him to do..

Psalm 119:133 *Guide my steps as you promised; don't let any sin control me.*

3. This is a fight you will have to face again and again—

a) V22 says the **Philistines came up yet again** —- same location , same enemy same fight

b) As a disciple you will have to fight for breakthrough over and over again - not something your graduate from / in pioneering / pastoring / doing a work for God at any level

C. Spiritual Breakthrough involves spiritual breakthrough

1. God wants you to have the victory

a) Important to remember — Gods will for your life is dominion and victory

b) God anointed David King - Hell was not happy about that wanted to stop what God was doing

(1) God gives a strategy for victory to David

II. GAINING MOMENTUM

A. Biblical Principle of our text is the idea of Momentum: **Momentum Begins With Movement**

1. Momentum is a multiplied force that keeps something moving in a specific direction

2 Samuel 5:24 *— "And when you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the balsam trees, then rouse yourself, for then the LORD has gone out before you…"*

a) A stationary object has no momentum / Movement must begin before momentum can develop.

b) Spiritually, nothing changes until somebody begins to move in obedience.

2. Our text shows us that God initiated the movement

a) David had to be aware of what was happening around him

b) Critical for disciples to be able to see what God is doing

(1) History of our fellowship — PM saw what God was doing and moved with that

3. This is how Spiritual momentum begins in the church

a) Past few months we've seen an increase in God moving

(1) People responding - Praying for salvation / getting saved / coming back to church / new converts making good decisions

b) The first principle of momentum is that we must respond to what God is doing.

B. Momentum requires participation

1. God Promises victory but we still have to fight
    a) Gods involvement did not remove davids responsibility

2 Samuel 5:25 *And David did as the Lord commanded him*

    b) Incorrect idea about Gods desire to help fight our battles is that our participation is optional
    c) Gods works with you and I in partnership - He will do what only He can do - we must do our part

Pr. Boyet "Initiative creates opportunities."

2. Disciples must participate in what God is already doing
    a) Momentum and breakthrough is not just for a few special men - God wants everyone to experience victory for themselves
3. This is especially important in the season we're entering.
    a) We have just experienced revival. / People have been saved. /New converts are beginning to lock in.
    b) But the momentum cannot depend on a visiting evangelist or a handful of faithful people.

C. Momentum Builds Upon Previous Victories

1. One of the great principles of momentum is that movement becomes easier to sustain once it has begun.
    a) The greatest resistance is often experienced when trying to get something started.
    b) Once movement begins, continued effort can build upon what has already been accomplished.
2. Spiritually, one breakthrough can become the foundation for another.

Acts 2:47 *praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.*

    a) One person gets saved and begins reaching their family.
    b) One new convert gets established and becomes an example to others.
    c) One successful outreach creates faith for the next.
    d) One answered prayer encourages others to believe God.
3. We must recognize that what appears small today can become something much greater tomorrow
    a) The goal is not simply to experience an isolated victory, but to allow that victory to produce continuing spiritual movement.

III. KEEPING MOMENTUM

A. Momentum Must Be Maintained

Pr. Greg "Willingness is where calling starts—dedication is what gets you there and what you need in that is a supernatural dimension."

1. The Philistines returned after David's previous victory.

2 Samuel 5:22 *And the Philistines came up yet again and spread out in the Valley of Rephaim.*

    a) Yesterday's victory did not eliminate tomorrow's opposition.
2. There is a danger that follows every season of spiritual victory.
    a) We relax because things are going well.
    b) We assume that what God has started will automatically continue.

Galatians 6:9 *— "And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart."*

B. Momentum Requires Continued Direction

1. David did not assume that the strategy from the previous battle would work in the next.
    a) Same enemy / Same valley / Different instructions from God.
2. Never come to place in your life and ministry where you don't need Gods help and direction
    a) New day New Demons - mens means you will need Gods help over and over again
3. This reveals an important principle: Spiritual momentum is not maintained by simply repeating yesterday's methods, but by maintaining today's relationship with God.

C. Momentum should be the bench mark of every disciple

1. Seeing what God is doing and running towards that
    a) Our text David was ready again to go after the enemy
2. Learning to settle for nothing less
    a) The Phrase this is unacceptable has to become yours personally
    b) The momentum we are experiencing as a church - you can be apart of that personally
3. Momentum is potential of what can become
    a) What else does God want to do in our lives and in our church - who else is God wanting to reach and impact through your life?

Pastor Greg "Christianity is meant to be lived at the boiling point."