

November 26, 2023, Pastor Jason Smotherman

SERMON NOTES:

Difference Makers – The Power of “IF” Moments

Proverbs 2:1-7 (CSB)

¹My son, **if** you accept my words and store up my commands within you,
²listening closely[a] to wisdom and directing your heart to understanding;
³furthermore, **if** you call out to insight and lift your voice to understanding,
⁴**if** you seek it like silver and search for it like hidden treasure,⁵ then you will understand the fear of the Lord and discover the knowledge of God. ⁶For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.
⁷ **He stores up success for the upright;**

“If” can be used as....

1. Condition (I'll go **IF** you go)
2. Even though (I'll do it even **IF** no one else does)
3. Whether (He asked **IF** I knew how to play basketball)

The If Moments are crucial moments in the life of believers.
In places of transition, how you handle “if” moments will determine success or defeats in life.

Matthew 8:1-3 - Lord, if you are willing, can you make me clean.

Notice what he called Jesus: not savior, not teacher, but Lord.
Notice he realized the season he was in: If you are willing. The outcome was out of his hands, he knew he needed to go to the place where the IF moment could be answered correctly.
Notice his statement of faith, it came as a question, can you make me clean? He knew the answer but left it up to the Lord the outcome.

2 Chronicles 7:14 & 19

If my people who are called by my name
If you turn aside.....then I will pluck you up.



Every person must answer the 3 different IF questions that you face in life.

- 1 - what or who will become your source in the "if" moments of life?
- 2 - when the "if" moments pass, what will you anchor yourself too?
- 3 - what is your final answer when facing "if" moments?

**The end of answering the IF moments correctly is the promise
that He will store up success for you.**

Proverbs 2 gives us the game plan on how to win in "if" moments

1. Accept His Words

- For yourself.
- No matter what.
- Being a Christian by definition if being Christ like not you like.
- What He says trumps my own opinions or feelings or past experiences.

2. Store up His commands

- Give yourself to being a saver of His words.
- Don't be forgetful of the things you've learned, especially when it matters most. (usually when you're wanting to do the wrong thing)

3. Direct your heart

- Your heart by its nature wants to the wrong thing but YOU CAN DIRECT YOUR HEART.

4. Call out for insight

- Be vocal and intentional about being a disciple.

5. Seek it like treasure

- Think gold rush. This can change your life forever!
- Millions of tons of dirt for thousand ounces of gold

6. Then you will understand the fear of the Lord

- Fear = respect

7. Then you will discover the knowledge of God

- Discover = cherish the knowledge