

ReBuild Part 6 by Ps Larry Elliott

Relentless

Luke 19:9-10 NKJV “And Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham; for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.”

This story is about Zacchaeus a tax collector, who according to Jewish Religion was a traitor and a sinner!

(He being a Jew was collecting taxes for the Romans, who were their oppressors).

Yet Jesus was **relentless** in pursuing him.

But Jesus says to Zacchaeus: I came to SEEK and SAVE YOU.

TODAY: Being Relentless in our FAITH!

SEEK

(zēteō—dzay-teh'-o)

Means to Inquire of, go after passionately, to aim at or place a Demand on.

SAVE

(sōzō-sode'-zo)

To save, that is, *deliver* or *protect* (literally or figuratively): - heal, preserve, to make well or whole.

Let's remind ourselves it starts when we experience JESUS, who is relentless in His pursuit of us

Relentless: not letting up in intensity, strength, or pace in one's pursuit.

In many instances used as a negative characteristic, but today we will use it in a positive sense, because it's what you apply it to that determines its quality.

It's true that Zacchaeus started searching to see who Jesus was, but when JESUS revealed Himself it changed everything!

Luke 19:1-8 NKJV “Then Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. Now behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus who was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not because of the crowd, for he was of short stature. So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him, for He was going to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and saw him, and said to him, “Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house.” So he made haste and came down, and received Him joyfully. But when they saw it, they all complained, saying, “He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner.” Then Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, “Look, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore fourfold.”

Let's look at three areas we encounter God being RELENTLESS:

(There are so many: Forgiveness, Healing, Compassion, Providing...)

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Relentless in LOVE – Peter

Their first meeting when Jesus called Peter to be a follower and he became one of three closest to Jesus on Earth. But after swearing to Jesus he would never leave Him, he betrayed Him (even after Jesus had warned him) and he basically backslid and went back to fishing. Jesus remained relentless in Loving Peter; after His resurrection, He came after all of them but especially Peter.

Mark 16:7 NKJV “But go, tell His disciples - and Peter - that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you.”

As Jesus reinstates Peter, Father God's LOVE had changed him; in John 21 Peter is so humble when asked by Jesus do you Love me the 3rd time - Peter said Jesus you know all things...

 **Jesus always looks beyond your current shortcomings and missteps and LOVES you back to life**

 **God's Love unlocks our Potential and sets us on course to fulfill our Purpose**

 No matter where you are or what you are currently facing Jesus is calling... go tell My disciples and YOU!

Relentless in GRACE – Paul

Saul who became Paul became a trophy of God's GRACE!

He went from persecuting the early Church and killing Christians to an encounter with Jesus that changed him forever.

Grace had a deep meaning for the apostle Paul, in his letters to the early church, he used the Greek word charis, most often translated “grace,” approximately 100 times.

Remarkably, the subject of grace shows up multiple times in every one of his letters that has been preserved for us.

Acts 9:

Jesus could've just killed Paul but rather His LOVE and GRACE uplifted Him and set him on a new trajectory.

 God's Grace unlocks Christ's Ability in us and gives us confidence that we can fulfil our purpose and become Christ-like!

Relentless FAITHFULNESS – Moses

What about Moses, hidden as a baby, brought up in the Pharaoh's palace, exiled because he stood up for his people, 40 years on the back side of the desert, called by God as the instrument God used to deliver His people out of Egypt. Moses experienced God's FAITHFULNESS and God remained faithful to him throughout that whole process.

Faithfulness of God is revealed throughout the Bible, Old and New Testament!

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God is faithful and His Word is true.

Testimony after testimony of God's faithfulness is found throughout the Bible and is still given in testimonies by people today.

In fact, accounts of covenants between God and His people can be found approximately 277 times in the Bible.

Deuteronomy 7:9 NKJV "Therefore know that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments;"

🔥 Gods Faithfulness unlocks Perseverance in us and gives us the endurance to finish our race.

It's time for US TO BE RELENTLESS

When we experience His relentless Love, Grace and Faithfulness it builds our Faith and we can become relentless in our pursuit of Jesus.

Romans 12:11-13 MSG "Don't burn out; keep yourselves fuelled and aflame. Be alert servants of the Master, cheerfully expectant. Don't quit in hard times; pray all the harder. Help needy Christians; be inventive in hospitality."

👊 **By being Relentless I'm talking about when we are born-again there is a spirit of determination that rises within us.**

Romans 12:11-13 TPT "Be enthusiastic to serve the Lord, keeping your passion toward him boiling hot! Radiate with the glow of the Holy Spirit and let him fill you with excitement as you serve him. Let this hope burst forth within you, releasing a continual joy. Don't give up in a time of trouble, but commune with God at all times. Take a constant interest in the needs of God's beloved people and respond by helping them.

Three Areas of being Relentless:

We become Relentless in Pursuing JESUS - Moses, Paul and Peter

Moses:

Exodus 33:14-16 NKJV "And He said, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." V15 Then he said to Him, "If Your Presence does not go with us, do not bring us up from here. V16 For how then will it be known that Your people and I have found grace in Your sight, except You go with us? So we shall be separate, Your people and I, from all the people who are upon the face of the earth."

What's in your Hand today?

Exodus 4:2-3 NKJV So the LORD said to him, "What is that in your hand?" He said, "A rod." And He said, "Cast it on the ground." So he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and

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Moses fled from it.

God wants to take the natural things in your life and make them supernaturally blessed. But why did the rod become a serpent when Moses cast it to the ground?

Moses never realized that there was a “snake” in his rod. You see, because of the fall of man, there is a touch of the curse — a snake — in every natural thing, including your career, natural strength, talents and ministry.

Beloved, there is a snake, a touch of the curse, in everything in the natural. But give what is natural to the Lord and see the touch of the curse replaced with the supernatural touch of God!

Paul:

1 Corinthians 2:2 NKJV “For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.”

I must have the foundation of a personal relationship Jesus, Paul was devoted to a Person, not to a cause. He was absolutely Jesus Christ's. He saw nothing else and he lived for nothing else.

Peter:

2 Peter 1:2-3 NKJV “Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,”

We become Relentless in:

Pursuing His Church – Paul

In this series we are talking about ReBuilding walls in our lives and others.

Philippians 4:1 NKJV “Therefore, my beloved and longed-for brethren, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, beloved.”

Paul was passionate about the Church of Jesus becoming the HOPE OF THE WORLD, we should too.

1 Corinthians 15:10 NKJV “But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.”

👉 Serving in the Church and Community

2 Corinthians 8:9 NKJV “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.”

2 Corinthians 9:8 NKJV “And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.”

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👉 Giving your finances and helping others in need

2 Corinthians 12:9 NKJV "And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me."

👉 Becoming Christ-like in your Inward being so that you can SHINE CHRIST'S Light outwardly in the World.

We become Relentless in:

Pursuing the Lost – Peter

Being Relentless in pursuing God is not easy, but it's definitely worth it and when it takes place, God will start placing others on your HEART

Peter went from zealous with no depth, to backslidden and disillusioned, but Jesus restored Him and then used Peter to preach the first SERMON of the New Covenant in the birth of the Church and 3000 were saved in Acts 2.

Acts 2:14 NKJV "But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words.

Acts 2:21 NKJV And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.'

Acts 2:41 NKJV Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them."

- Praying
- Witnessing
- Sowing finances
- Being a Light by your life, by acts of kindness

Being relentless means being the best version of yourself.

This means you are free to pursue JESUS AND FOCUS on what He wants you to become and accomplish.

Grow in your relationship with God and who you are and what He created you to be. You will also find it easier in reaching out to others the way He wants you to.

Be relentless to stay in faith and receive God's promises.

Remember, you belong to Him and He's given you a relentless spirit!

Prayer: Father God, I want to live the new life, I desire to relentlessly pursue You and Your promises. I trust You to help me become all You created me to be and experience true freedom.

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