Connect study—Synergy Glory Rises

1. God forgets vs God remembers

Heb 8:12 “And I will forgive their wickedness, and I will never again remember their sins."

Jesus sought out Peter who denied him three times. In fact, in Mk 14:71, it said that Peter called down a curse and swore that he never knew Jesus. Jesus restored Peter and he became a mighty apostle. God does not come to remind us of our sins but of our righteousness. The Apostle Peter was the one who wrote: “Love covers a multitude of sins” (1 Pet 4:8)

In Gen 12:4, we read that Abram was 75 years old when the Lord called him to leave the city of Haran. The next mention of Abraham’s age is in Gen 16:16 which says “Abram was 86 years old when Ishmael was born”. That 11-year gap was recorded from Gen 12-16, which was really the record of Abram’s successes. Then the next mention of his age was in Gen 17:1 “When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to him…”. Nothing was written about the 13 years after Ishmael was born. The Lord did not record Abraham’s failure.

Moses the prophet who wrote Genesis was given revelation and insight even about the creation of the universe yet he was not given the insight about Abraham’s failures and mistakes. Having said that, God is a God who remembers. God even remembered the donkey who was not given the opportunity to worship on the mountain with Abraham in Gen 22. Years later, Samson used the jawbone of a donkey to kill his enemies. The Lord used a donkey to speak to a prophet and centuries later, Jesus the Messiah rode on a donkey into Jerusalem. If he can even remember a donkey, how much more will he remember all his promises to us as his children.

1. Truth vs facts

In 2 Kings 6 Elisha the prophet was with his servant at Dothan. The servant got up the next morning and reported to Elisha in a panic that they were surrounded by troops, horses and chariots everywhere. He was not telling a lie. Those were facts. But Elisha knew the truth. He prayed for the servant’s eyes to be opened and the servant saw that the hillside around Elisha were filled with horses and chariots of fire. God calls us to declare not just the facts but the truth.

When Jesus came to Mary and Martha’s house after Lazarus had died (which was the fact), Jesus declared that Lazarus would rise again. Martha who complained that if Jesus would have come earlier, Lazarus would be well, concurred at this point with Jesus and agreed that Lazarus would rise again in the last day when the rest of the world is resurrected. Her faith was that God could work in “yesterday” and “tomorrow” but not today. We need to stand on the truth for today.

1. Fish vs snake

Blessings vs curses. In Lk 11, Jesus said, “when your children ask for a fish, will you give them a snake instead”. There are two types of exchanges. Some fathers transfer fish (which represents blessings) to their future generations whereas other fathers transfer snakes (which represents curses) to their future generations.

God wants to increase the fish and destroy the snakes in our families.

Discussion:

* What did you gain from synergy?
* What do you need to do to go the next level in God?