

KEEP YOUR FAITH FOCUSED

Pastor George Pearsons Wednesday, September 5, 2018

A. Proverbs 4:20-27 The Power of Focus

1. General Tommy Franks was interviewed several days before the invasion of Baghdad in 2003. He was responsible for shutting down Saddam Hussein's reign of terror. General Franks was questioned by the reporter. Referencing the magnitude of the task ahead, the reporter asked if he was afraid. General Franks quickly replied...

"FOCUS HAS A WAY OF OVERCOMING ANXIETY"

- 2. The General was focused on the successful outcome of the campaign.
- 3. He refused to consider anything less than a total victory.
- 4. He was determined to eliminate all distractions and stay focused on desired result.
- 5. That is exactly the way we should be with our faith.

B. James 1:5-8 Faith Eliminate Distractions

- 1. Distraction is an enemy to faith.
- 2. Verses 5-8 A double minded man is unstable in all of his ways.
- 3. <u>Proverbs 4:25 and 27</u> Let your eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee. Turn not to the right hand or to the left.
 - a) Verse 25 (MSG) Keep your eyes straight ahead; ignore all sideshow distractions.
 - b) Verse 27 (NLT) Don't get sidetracked.
 - c) Verse 27 (NIV) Do not swerve to the right or the left.
- 4. Example: Olympic skater with headphones focused on his performance.
- 5. Example: Golfer blocked out everyone around him (Show clip).

C. Mark 5:35-36 Faith Stays Focused

- 1. Faith stays focused on the desired result vs the dreaded outcome.
- 2. Verses 35-36 (AMPC) While He was still speaking, there came some from the ruler's house, who said [to Jairus], Your daughter has died. Why bother and distress the Teacher any further? Overhearing but ignoring what they said, Jesus said to the ruler of the synagogue, Do not be seized with alarm and struck with fear; only keep on believing (Stay focused!)
- 3. <u>Hebrews 12:1-2</u> (NIV) Let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes (stay focused) on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.
- 4. Locate the scripture that gives you the answer to the problem.
- 5. Keep your faith focused on that Word until the manifestation arrives.

Notes:			