

SUNDAY THE PASTOR & THE PEOPLE

OCTOBER 5, 2025

SCRIPTURE

The Lord said, "The time has come for you to lead these people, the Israelites, across the Jordan River into the land I am giving them. I promise you what I promised Moses: 'Wherever you set foot, you will be on land I have given you...' No one will be able to stand against you as long as you live. For I will be with you as I was with Moses. I will not fail you or abandon you. Be strong and courageous, for you are the one who will lead these people to possess all the land I swore to their ancestors I would give them. Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the instructions Moses gave you. Do not deviate from them, turning either to the right or to the left. Then you will be successful in everything you do. Study this Book of Instruction (Scripture) continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do. This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Then Joshua told the people, "Purify yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do great wonders among you." Joshua 1-3 (selected verses)

For Israel's community to function properly, there had to be a covenant partnership.

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT FROM ME

1/ You can expect me to be a man of prayer.

"Seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if the city prospers, you too will prosper." Jeremiah 29:7

2/ You can expect me to preach the whole counsel of God.

Offense will never be intentional, but there is an unwavering commitment to "speak the truth in love."

3/ You can expect me to love and protect your family.

Our staff will love and protect on a physical and spiritual level.

A hired hand will run when he sees a wolf coming. He will abandon the sheep because they don't belong to him and he isn't their shepherd. And so the wolf attacks them and scatters the flock. The hired hand runs away because he's working only for the money and doesn't really care about the sheep. John 10:12-13

A man doesn't go to war because he hates what stands in front of him, but because he loves what stands behind him.

4/ You can expect me to prioritize my family.

5/ You can expect me to make mistakes.

"The biblical fact is that there are no successful churches. There are, instead, communities of sinners, gathered before God week after week in towns and villages all over the world. The Holy Spirit gathers them and does His work in them. In these communities of sinners, one of the sinners is called a 'pastor' and given a designated responsibility to the community. The pastor's responsibility is to keep the community attentive to God." Eugene Peterson

6/ You can expect me to be steady (not spectacular).

Remember Joe DiMaggio!

7/ You can expect me to be accountable.

8/ You can expect me to honor the past while leaning into the future.

WHAT I ASK FROM YOU

1/ I ask you to pray for me and for the church.

2/ I ask you to forgive me for my mistakes (in advance).

A covenant mentality is a lighthouse. Its light burns bright in gale force winds. A consumer mindset is a candle. Its light fades in the slightest breeze.

3/ I ask you to contribute the vision.

Our heart is to make, mature, and mobilize disciples. This is the pathway:

Gather: Seek out spiritual community!

Glorify: Engage your heart in the Presence of God!

Grow: Come hungry to understand and experience the living Word of God!

Give: Partner with what God is doing in this house financially!

Go: Be part of what the Lord is doing through us here and around the world!

4/ I ask you to continue fighting for the unity of the Holy Spirit.

Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace. Ephesians 4:3

5/ I ask you to love and protect my family.

6/ I ask you to support the staff.

7/ I ask you to speak highly of Christian Life.

The tongue has the power of life and death. Proverbs 18:21

8/ I ask you to stay hungry for the Lord.

WHAT WE ANTICIPATE FROM THE LORD

1/ We should anticipate amazing things from the Lord!

*"From the bottom of my heart, I love you. And I bless you. It is one of the greatest honors of my life to be your pastor. I am so grateful the Lord has brought our lives together! May our hearts be ever bonded and unified as we fulfill the purposes of God **together** in our generation! All for Jesus' name!"*

Cory, Joy & the Many Henderson Children