The Mantle is Passed

In Elijah's final days, Elisha shows us key choices that the faithful follower of God consistently makes. These choices reveal to us where we need to focus our attention.

Scripture(s): 2 Kings 2:1-14

Remember this - The everyday choices we make as believers need to point to Jesus as our chief

I. Elisha chooses hard ______ over formulaic obedience. Truly faithful Christians live in the ______

of faithfulness instead of following a list of rules of behavior.

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Philippians 2:3-5 (6-8) 3 Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; 4 do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others. 5 Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus,

II. Elisha chooses quiet presence over worry about the ______. Every group is tempted to face the struggles of life in a way that leaves out ______. God's people must chose faith over that lesser way.

Philippians 4:6-7 6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Romans 14:23 23 But he who doubts is condemned if he eats, because his eating is not from faith; and whatever is not from faith is sin.

III. Elisha chooses spiritual food before emotional or physical ______. Believers testify to the real and full ______ that is found when a person truly discovers the glory and wonder of God.

Psalms 63:1-3 1 O God, You are my God; I shall seek You earnestly; My soul thirsts for You, my flesh yearns for You, In a dry and weary land where there is no water. 2 Thus I have seen You in the sanctuary, To see Your power and Your glory. 3 Because Your lovingkindness is better than life, My lips will praise You.

Our challenge: Choose ______ over fear and ______ over despair.

How will you say yes to making Jesus your chief joy?

What scripture(s) encourage you to do this?