

Battling The Big “D”

We're gonna get into the message this morning and, uh, we're gonna be talking about defeating the Big D, the big D in our life. And people say, well, what does that mean? What is the big D? Well, the Big D is this morning for, anyway, the Big D is, uh, tackling and defeating discouragement in our life, tackling and defeating discouragement in our life. Let's all understand this. Life is very hard. Life is an absolute battle. And as I've said many times, we are not battling flesh and blood. You may think that you're battling other people, people at work, people in your neighborhood, even people in your family. You may think that you're battling them, but you're really not. You are fighting an invisible war. And that war is called the spiritual life of the spiritual warfare that's going on. And that battle is to keep all of us at no Jesus Christ from getting to the purpose that God wants for our life.

We need to understand this. God has created you, and God has created me for a wonderful purpose in life. You're not just here to be here. You have been formed; you have been fashioned. You have been talented. You have been gifted to do something in this world, in your lifespan that nobody else can do. Quite like you. You are an original. You are a unique person formed by God all mighty. You are not a cookie cutter person. You are not formed on an assembly line. You and I were formed by the mighty wondrous hands of a mighty God. Amen. God says that we were meticulously knitted together. So, folks, I want you to understand this morning, this world may not think that you are very important. In fact, this world may say that we could do without you. But I will tell you this, when God looks at your life, when God looks at mine, he says, we are a beautiful creation in God.

And there is no bigger fan than we've ever had in life than Jesus. He loves us so much that he went to the cross and he died on the cross for our sins. Number two, he loves us so much that he is committed to us for us to be the people that he is going to use in our lifetime to bring him honor and glory and praise like nobody else. You, I have been chosen to understand this. But for the foundations of the world, the foundations of the world, to do something for God that nobody else can do quite like you. What a wonderful thing that is. You're a v i p this morning. Do you understand that? I want to give you some encouragement today. I don't care how you feel in your heart, what others may say about you, but you are a v i p when it comes to God looking at your life.

But there's one thing that Satan will use bigger than anything else in our life. And that is he will use the tool of discouragement. Somebody once said that Satan was one that one day he put together a yard sale, if you will. He had signs all over, yard sale, yard sale, yard sale. And he was the one that was leading the yard sale. He was the leader of the yard sale. And he had prices on all of the different tools that he has used in all of mankind with all of mankind. Some of these tools were the tool of hatred. Some of them were the tools of envy, the tools of jealousy, the tools of his seat and pride in lying, all different

tools that were out there. We could add more and more to that. And all of them had different prices. But there was one tool that was kinda put off to the side and it was marked higher than any other tool.

And that tool did not have a name on the tool. And somebody went up to Satan and they said, Satan they said, there's a tool over here that is higher priced than anything else on the table. What in the world is that tool? And Satan looked at the person, he said, you know, he said, somebody tell you something, that tool right there has been more useful to me than any other tool that I've ever used. In fact, he says, that tool is something that I have used for over 2000 years to get into inside a man's heart and a woman's heart. And you know that tool has been used to just absolutely wear down people, to get 'em to their last breath of life, almost, to get 'em to a place where they just think they can't do. Go any further. And I'll tell you the name of that tool is discouragement.

I have used it with all kinds of people down through the years. And folks, let me tell you this. After serving the Lord as a pastor for 45 years in the ministry, I can tell you that I kind of agree with that assumption. He has used discouragement. He's using discouragement right now. And our congregation right here this morning, you being here, people that are watching on the live broadcasts. So I want to give you a few things about discouragement. And at the tail end, I want to give you a few things that we can do that will absolutely keep us out of discouragement. So what does discouragement do to us? First of all, discouragement will always leave you. And I drained, look, if you will, at Nehemiah chapter four, verse 10. And these words come from, uh, the message version. I don't use it very often, but I've used it here because I think it makes a lot of sense.

And the, the, uh, purpose of this verse is to share with us this, the, uh, backdrop of this is the people of, uh, Jerusalem. Were, were being used to the Lord to build back the walls of Jerusalem. And Nehemiah was a prophet in the day. And he had rallied the troops, if you will, to build back the walls of Jerusalem that had been knocked down, that had been destroyed. So he was a prophet. He got all of these people up there, got 'em all encouraged, got 'em all, just really popped up to be able to build the walls back, that God wanted to be built back, that other people had had knocked down. Israel was, was shame the law, the, uh, walls of Jerusalem were just laying in ruins. So, he, he raised up a great army to build it all. Rah rah, everything was going good.

But it says soon word was going around in Judea that the builders were pooped. <laugh>. I like that. Have you ever gotten to a place in your life where you were just gung-ho about something? I mean, you were gung-ho. Maybe, maybe it was you were gung-ho about a purpose that God had for you. You know, I can relate with this sometimes because I've had different times in my life where God has really challenged me to do something. And, you know, he's challenged me, and I've gotten into the challenge sometimes. And you know what happens in the challenge? A lot of times the same thing happens with me. That happens with you. We get all fired up, we run to the challenge, we kinda get on the wall, if you will, and we start

working on what we ought to work on. And then all of a sudden it seems we don't have any energy anymore to get the job done.

It seems like we're drained. It seems like we're discouraged. It seems like we're down and out and you.

know, that can take a lot of different forms. I did a wedding yesterday, first wedding I've ever done when I've been sitting in a chair. They said, pastor, we don't care if you're laying down. We want you to do the wedding <laugh>. So, they worked out really good, tied a lot of knots down through 45 years. But I will tell you this as much rah rah as there is at a wedding, I've never had a person in a wedding say, well pastor, I'm not gonna do this. I'm not gonna do that. What they want to do is they want to go ahead and get hurry up and get through with the vows we want to get on with life. All right? Or we've got a reception to get to hurry up, pastor.

They can't wait. But as all of us know that have been married for a while, marriage is not all peaches and cream. Amen. It's not all wedding cake. Amen. Amen. You may freeze your wedding cake for a year. You may get that wedding cake after out after the year, but sometimes it doesn't taste as good after a year as it tasted when you first tasted it. Amen. Amen. Why? Because

marriage is something you gotta work at. Amen. Sometimes you get discouraged in your marriage. Amen. Amen. You gotta work at it. Raising kids. Oh, my goodness. Oh, pastor, come up here. We just had a kid that was born. Woohoo. You get to the nursery. I've never been with parents outside of a nursery where they said, pastor, that was the biggest mistake right there of my life. No, they look at the baby, they hold the baby goo goo gaga, all the other little things we say, baby's drooling all over you. Baby's spitting up all over you. How is it that wonderful pastor? Isn't that great? And they're doing other stuff out of different parts of their body. Amen. But we don't get down about that. We don't get discouraged. Oh, it's all so wonderful. But guess what? The goo goo guy wears off. Amen. Amen. They turn into bra <laugh>.

They turn into kids sometimes that we look at 'em and say, what in the world has happened to you folks? We get discouraged sometimes with our children. Amen. Amen. Amen. And boy, do we get discouraged with our personal lives? Sometimes things are going great, things are going wonderful, and then we hit a brick wall, we get discouraged, the wind gets out of our sails, and we get weary in the battle. If there's a person here that says, pastor, I am always up. I am always charging pastor. I'm never drained. I'm just as focused now as I'm on, hey pastor, I never get out of focus. You are lying. Why? Because Satan wants to rain on your parade, and he wants to rain on mine. Why? He wants to get us down. He wants us to get discouraged. He did not want the wall to get built in Nehemiah's day.

That's why Nehemiah is a prophet. He turned to God and says, God, listen. I need some help here. All these people that were so encouraged about doing what you wanted them to do, they've kinda lost their steam. They've lost their vision and esteem is with us. And you know, if we're honest about it, look at some of our body language this morning. We are going through the motions. We know how to act in church, don't we? I've seen some of y'all this morning. I

watched some of you from my window. My window is open. You can't see me, but I can see you. And I watch a lot of people come up in church. All of you are the same way. All of you are the same way. I watched you, some of you I watched from your cars to when you got to up there to the front, and Jim and Brett were there to shake your hand and welcome you.

You turned it completely and 180 degrees. You turned it around. Something magical happened. When you got outta your car, you were on holy ground. You knew how to act. How you doing today? Wonderful. How are you? Listen, that's not true. And you know it. You're going through the motions, but your body language shows your facial expressions. Show things that comes out of your mouth, sometimes shows that you and I have kinda got to the point where we are weary in the battle. And if you're living for the Lord, if you're trying to have a marriage that honors God, if you're trying to raise a family that honors God, if you're trying to have a life that honors God, folks, let me tell you something. It is okay to be weary in the battle. Our Lord got weary in the battle, did he not? Yes. 40 days and 40 nights.

Satan came at him on the 40th day when he was his weakest. And he will come at us when we are our weakest. He doesn't come to us when we're rah rah, ready to rock and roll when we get full of the Holy Spirit, when we get right. Have you ever been full of the Lord to the point where you're saying, bring it on. I'm ready for anything. Have you not Three people, the rest of you don't know what I'm talking about. <laugh>. You've read the word of God, the Holy Spirit's spoken to you. You've listened to a lot of praise music. You've listened to a sermon. You have been around somebody that's pumped you up, that's encouraged you. And boy, you are ready to discharge hell with a water pistol. Amen. You are so excited. And then that lasts for a little while, and then you look around and say why an awareness happened. Well, what has happened is this, it is hard to stay focused on the things in our life that are good. Yes. Because Satan's coming to us with everything in the world. Understand we're fighting a battle. Everything in this world as opposed to what Christ wants for you and me in our life.

Amen. So sometimes it leaves you and I very, very drained in our life. No. Number two, it leaves you disgruntled. Look at Nehemiah chapter four, verse 10. Last part of that. It says the rubbish piles up. What that means is half the wall was built. They got tired, and what they did was they started looking at all the garbage around them instead of what Christ had already done. Here's a principle. I'll share this with you. Satan wants you all and me to always look at things in our life that are still there that we haven't gotten victory over yet. Amen. Amen. Understand this, we've all got issues in our life, and we all are making progress with the Lord. A lot of us, were looking in our life this morning and say, pastor, you know what? I am so closer. I'm closer to Jesus today than I was six months ago.

But I am not there yet. I'm still struggling with this. I'm still struggling with this. I'm still struggling with this. I am still pastor. I haven't arrived yet. And you know what Satan does? He sees your progress. He sees the bricks that you have laid in your life to try to build your life up to where you know Jesus wants your life to be built up to He. He sees what you have done as a dad to be a better spiritual dad. A year ago, you weren't a spiritual dad at all. You were a dad that you weren't proud of. All right? You weren't the dad you should be. You weren't the

husband you should be. You weren't the man that you should be a year ago. You were not the mom that you should be. You are not the wife. You are not the individual that you should be.

A year ago, you were not here in your addiction. Okay? Hey, you haven't conquered this yet. Conquered. And what Satan does is this. He doesn't, he doesn't give us a hand with the progress that we've made in our life. He never cheers us on. What he does is this, Hey, you've only built your life back a little bit. Look at all the things that you still have to accomplish in your life. You will never, ever get there. What does he do? He reigns on your parade. Listen, he never.

applauded you for your progress. What he does is he shows you the garbage. He shows you things in your life that still have not been achieved. He shows you things in your life that you have still not had victory over. Can anybody relate with that this morning? Amen. Amen. Attitudes, are you where you need to be in your attitudes? Your wives out there. You've made it your goal to actually cook your man a meal instead of giving him stuffers. You have cooked.

a meal for him 10 times this year. You have given him Stuffers 30 times, but you have made more meals for him than you made last year. Amen? Amen. Your goal is to spend more time with your kids. You haven't achieved your goal yet, but you've put more time with your kids than you did last year or coming to church. Do you understand what I'm saying? You're making progress in your life, but Satan doesn't recognize or applaud your progress. He always majors on things that we have not accomplished yet in our life and uses those things to get us discouraged. Listen to me. You need to take it. And you need to understand that you need to put the things that you, that Satan is bringing your way. You need to put 'em in a garbage bag. And you need to say, you know what, Satan, you're right. I am not where I want to be, but you know something, I am not where I used to be. Amen. And instead of me being discouraged by where I'm not yet, I'm gonna be encouraged by where I am now. Amen.

Amen. Amen. And I'm proud of a lot of folks in this church. I know you, some of you have told me where you're at in life. Some of you've come to me for counseling and different things. I know where you were, and I know where you are. I know your struggles and I know how you're gaining on those struggles. I know where you've fallen sometimes you've told me. But praise God, you've gotten back up and you're keeping on fighting. And don't let Satan get you down to discourage this morning. Boy, he's tried with me the last couple of weeks, but I, you know what? He hadn't succeeded. I still got one leg to kick him in the fanny. Amen. <laugh>. He's not gonna get me down to discouraged. No, he ain't gonna get me down. Hey, it had to come through Jesus before it got to me. I'm a little fired up this morning because you know what? I know Satan's trying his hardest to keep me down. But I, you know what I am up this morning. I'm thanking and praising God what he's done in this church, what he's done in people's lives. Hey, I'm not majoring on the negative. I'm majoring on the positive this morning.

Some of y'all didn't think I could preach sitting down. Did you <laugh>? Tell you what? Woo. I'm glad this chair doesn't go up in the air. I be up hanging on them rafters this morning. But you need to take all the stuff that Satan gives you. You need to put it in the garbage bag.

You need to take it back out to the curb when the garbage man comes. Make sure he picks it up. And you know what? Make sure you use a red bag when you do it, because that red bag represents to you God's grace and love in your life. Yes, he's blessed you. He's forgiven you of your past. Don't let Satan bring it back to you and put it back at your doorstep. No, sir. That stuff is under the blood. Jesus has forgiven you. Jesus is for you. He is your fan. He is not gonna do anything in your life to try to discourage you. You take all that rubbish, you take all that garbage, you put it in that red bag that represents God's grace and love. You put it back out there and say, Satan, you will not bring that junk back into my life. It's gone. Amen.

Discouragement. Also, it leaves you dejected. Look at Nehemiah chapter four, verse 10. The last part, we're in over our heads. We can't build the wall. Have you ever felt like that? You're in over your head, you're drowning. Absolutely drowned. Listen, we all have unfinished walls in our life. Nehemiah had unfinished wall. We have unfinished walls. And you know why we have unfinished walls? Because everybody in this audience, including me, every one of us are in the remodeling stage. When you accepted Jesus, and I accepted Jesus the remodeling started. Yes. Amen. He's taking out all the things out of our house that don't belong. Amen. A's bringing all the things into our house that do belong. Some of us had a lot of remodeling to do more than others, but all of us have remodeling to do. And that remodeling never stops. As long as we're on this side of heaven.

You and I are gonna always find areas in our life that need to be remodeled. Amen. Amen. How do we know what needs to be remodeled? If we're a Christian, the Holy Spirit shows us which rooms need to be remodeled. You don't need me to tell you what's wrong in your life. You don't need, I don't need you to tell me what's wrong in my life. Some of you try to tell me anyway. But listen, I have the Holy Spirit in my life. I'm saved. I know Jesus. He is the one that guides me into all truths. Amen. Before Vicki tells me something's wrong in my life, I already know it. Why? Because the Holy Spirit has told me the Holy Spirit tells you. You know why? Because the Holy Spirit wants you and I to be a great example of Jesus Christ on this earth.

So, everything that doesn't represent Jesus in your life, the Holy Spirit is gonna show you those things. And he is going to help you through his power to be able to remodel your life so that your life can be the best example in my life, can be the best example of Jesus that it possibly can be. Amen. Amen. The Holy Spirit is the best interior decorator that has ever been. He will show you everything in your life that needs to be remodeled. But here's the deal. Some of us like our rooms to be the same as they've always been. Some of us don't like change. Some of us don't want the Holy Spirit tin ring with some of the stuff in our life that's been that way. And you know what I'm talking about? We say, you can remodel all the rooms in my life, but leave that room right there alone.

And you know why some remodeling is tough? Because there's some walls in our life that are tougher to knock down than others. Amen. Because they've been standing longer than others. And what I'm saying is this, we've got habits that we shouldn't have. We have addictions that we shouldn't have. We've got attitudes that we shouldn't have. And we've had those attitudes. We've had those addictions. We've had those habits for a long, long time. And you know what?

We're trying hard maybe to get rid of them, but it's hard to knock down that wall. You know why? Because they've been standing for a long, long time. But you know what? We get stubborn sometimes and we don't want those walls to come down. But here's the thing about the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is never gonna get tired of trying to knock those walls down. Amen. He's gonna chip away and chip away and chip away and make you and I absolutely miserable. Yes. Until he gets full reign of the room that he's trying to remodel. Amen. <laugh> who? Yeah. That's the truth. Yes. You say, well, why can't I have peace in my life? Because the Holy Spirit don't want you to have that room in your life. He wants that room. Amen. Amen. Like, you invite me to your house, pastor, you'd have every room in my house, but you can't have the kitchen.

That ain't gonna work. I am gonna bug you. I'm gonna bug you, and I'm gonna bug you some more until you give me the access to your kitchen. Why? Because that's my favorite room. <laugh>, We hold onto those rooms in our life. I don't wanna give it away. I, I, I like what I'm doing. The Holy Spirit says, no, no, no. Because it's not profitable for you to have your room this way. It needs to be remodeled. And we fight the remodeling. Keep on fighting it. Keep on fighting it. The Holy Spirit ain't gonna give up. Very, very patient Discouragement also leaves us very distressed. <laugh>. Nehemiah chapter four, verse 11, 12. Meanwhile, our enemies were saying before they knew what was happening, we will swoop down on them and kill them, and we will end their work. Lemme tell you something you already.

know. You and I can always have critics in our life. Amen. Aren't we? Yeah. We're gonna always have critics. You know what I call 'em in, uh, in church work, I've always said in churches, there's always people that love to be a part of whisper campaigns. You know what a whisper campaign is? A whisper campaign is for a few people that are disgruntled about something in the church. They get in the corner, and they go like this.

That's what a whisper campaign is. Sometimes people call have whisper campaigns about us. Amen. Sometimes people in your family don't like what you're doing, or they're jealous about the progress that you're making with God and they're not making it. You know what I found out? A lot of times when people are, are trying to reign on somebody else's parade, you know why? Because they're jealous. Because they don't like where the the strides that you're making spiritually. They wish that they could make those same strides. So all the things they've got to do is sit around, try to criticize you, or to tell you it's not gonna work. Amen. Amen. Hey, they're not for your progress. They wanna be critics. Listen, God has called you again to do something for him that nobody else can do. Do not let the critics in your life stop you.

Amen. Don't let 'em stop you. Satan's gonna use everybody against you. Amen. Amen. He's gonna use it all. There are folks in our church. Sometimes they don't like some of the things that we do. Guess what? We don't care. <laugh>. Amen. Somebody might've come in today and they say, you know what? I wish that they'd a picked purple carpet. You know, I wish they'd have painted the walls. I don't know, turquoise or something. You know, I wish they'd painted outside of the church prayer. Listen, I don't care. We painted as how God wanted us to do it. Amen. Amen. You don't like it? I don't know. Get over it. Amen. That's the way we feel about it.

And folks, we feel that way also about things in our life that God's called us to do that we need to get done. Don't let your critics get you down. All right? I'm gonna give you a couple things of how to get outta discouragement here. First one is this. Very important, how do you get out of discouragement? Do the work God's called you to do? Get back to work. Do the work God's called you to do. All right. Let me give you a scripture on that. Nehemiah chapter four verses 15th through 18. When our enemies heard that we, that they knew of our plans, that God had frustrated them, we all returned to our work on the wall. But from then on, only half the men worked. While the others stood guard with Spears, shields, Bowes, and coats of mail. The leaders stationed himself behind the people of Judah who are building the wall. The laborers carried on their work with one hand supporting their load and the other hand holding a weapon. All the builders had a sword belt on their side.

The trumpeter stayed with me to shout the alarm. What that means is we're in a spiritual battle. What that means is we need to hold in one hand the sword of the Spirit. The sword of the Spirit is the word of God. The sword of the Spirit is the encouragement of God's word. The sword of the Spirit is the principles of God's word. False. The great best thing you can do is to get yourself a Bible promise book and to mow the promises of God or to get into your Bible and know the principles. Whatever things that you're going through, the Bible will speak to those things in your life. Amen. There's not one single circumstance. There's not one single addiction. There's not one single thing in your life that you'll ever go through that the word of God does not give you a principle to be able to be carried out in that situation, in that circumstance.

Amen. It will encourage you, do the work that God's called you to do. Pastor, I don't feel like it. It doesn't matter. Get back to the work that God's called to do. Pastor, it's been a while. Get back to the work that God has called you to do. You know what Satan has done? Satan's discouraged you. You know what Satan has done? He's made you an island. You know the best place to get distressed. You know the best place to get discouraged is on an island. You have isolated yourself from other people that love Jesus. You've isolated yourself from the word of God. You've isolated yourself from prayer. You've isolated yourself from serving in this church. You used to be a part of serving in this church used to come more, used to listen to praise music, more, used to read the Bible more, used to pray more, used to fellowship with people in the church that knew Jesus.

What have you done? You have become a lone wolf and what has Satan done? He has caused all kinds of discouragement in your life. You are down and out because you have chosen to be down and out. The Lord has got a word for you this morning, and the word is this, regardless of how you feel. Listen, you may not feel like it, but get up and get back on the portion of the wall that God has called you to stand on and to serve him in. Amen. Amen. Amen. Everybody here you have got a spiritual gift. That's why we get people in our church to serve instead of sitting on their rear ends on a chair. You know why? Because we know that you are gonna have times. I'm gonna have times where I'm discouraged. It is hard to be discouraged if you are round of a lot of people that are rowing the boat on the way to their purpose in life.

For Jesus Christ. You can be having one of the most discouraging days that you've ever had. You come to the third Saturday of each month here to this church. You serve in the heart of the point. I'll tell you what, that'll change your spirit from a grup to being praiseful. Amen. Amen. You may be having one of the worst days you come, and you serve in first touch. You serve in the kitchen, you serve in the cafe, you serve with the kids. You serve with the students. You serve on the praise team. You serve in the media. You come to church; you get excited. What happens? Hey, Jesus. Spirit comes back into you. You're filled up again. You're on fire again. Why the cause you got up and you did something about it. I am so tired, tired, tired, tired of people telling me that they can't. I'm sick of it. Okay? I'm tired of it. And you know what God is too? Yes. Yes, He is.

You. Show me a Christian that says they can't Sir. My God is not an author of can't. That's Right. He's an author of Can. Amen.

Yes, you can. Yes, you can. Well, somebody said, I can't forget it. Forget it. Hey. Hey. I'm, I'm down. I'm discouraged. Why? Because you're letting it be that way. Listen. Get up the same God that was with you and the victories are the same God that's with you and the discouragement. Our God has not changed. I don't care what year it is. Our God is still the God that split the Red Sea. Our God is still the God that made the lame to walk, the blind to see that raised the dead. Our God is the same one that died on the cross. Rose again on the third day. And all power in all glory, our God is the same one that has never let you and me down once we have no business sitting down and groaning and grail about our life. Get up and do something about it in the name of Jesus.

Yes, well pastor, I can't get over it, amen.

So, folks, that's all you do. My goodness. People don't wanna be around you sometimes because all you do is give 'em an organ recital. Well, my knee hurts, my liver's outta place. Now toes out a joint. You're like an organ recital. Your tune never changes. You know what? Get ahold of God. Get ahold of God. We need to be still, and we need to know He is God. The second thing we need to do is we need to remember that God's on our side. Amen. Let me say that again. We need to remember, no matter what's happening, your life and mine, I don't care what's going on, God is on your side. Amen.

He's underneath a juniper tree. He's there. He's there with you. He's trying his best to encourage you. Did you hear me? Yes. He's trying to encourage you this morning. He's trying to get you out of that funk that you're in. You're going through the motions, but you know you ain't right. You know you're not right. Areas in your life aren't right. You aren't right. You're trying to mask it, but you're not right. Jesus wants you to get right. He wants you to get back in the rhythm. You know what that means? I talked about that on Wednesday night. How to stay in rhythm. Mm-hmm. <affirmative>, I'm not gonna dance for you this morning. I can't dance but let me say this to you. You know how it is to dance with Jesus. Amen

For people. Amen. You know what it is to take Jesus by the hand and have some rhythm. Amen. Amen. Come on. You need you. You know how to dance. You know how to dance. David knew how to dance in the Bible. He do the slow step. No, he did the jazzy. He got with it. Okay. He put John Travolta the shame. Hey, listen, he was doing it. I'm staying alive. He was doing staying alive before John Travolta was doing. Staying alive. You have been right with Jesus, and you have danced staying alive in your life because the time that you've danced is the time that you're right with Jesus. There's no other time like that in your life. But what he's trying to say to you this morning is the same God that you used to dance with is the same God that's waiting for you. He's holding at his hand and saying, I need my old dance partner back.

Yes, that's right. Come on, Let boogie boogie. You know I knew that word. Did you let boogie <laugh>? Well, pastor, you ain't supposed to dance. You know you're supposed to be Baptist. Baptist <laugh>, right?

I like to dance. I like to dance. You know what? When I'm right with Jesus, and you're right with Jesus. They ain't nothing like it in the world. Folks. Who wants to dance this morning? Who? Who wants to dance?

Hey, I look at it like this and I'm closing. Jesus is in the middle of the dance floor right now, right here, right now. Middle. The dance floor, center of the dance floor has your name on it. It's your purpose in life is ingrained right there where Jesus is standing. I don't know what he's called you to do. I don't know what he's gifted you to do, but that purpose is right there. It's never changed. Nobody's ever taken your place on the dance floor. Jesus has portions of the dance floor for everybody that's ever been born. Everybody that's ever accept him is Lord and Savior. He is right now in the center of the will for you right now on that dance floor. And here's what he's doing. He said, I have been missing my dance partner. I know you've been outta step. I know you've been discouraged. I know you've been weary. Listen to me understand that I'm the same dance partner that I used to be. I could put you back in step together. We can make beautiful music. Just take me, take me, and let me do the rest.

I'm gonna forget all the things that you've told me that you've asked me to forgive you of. Come on, you still got a purpose? Come on. You still got life. Come on. Quit sitting down. Believe in Satan that your dance is over. It's not over. I'm here. Come on, let's go. What are you waiting for? I'm asking you this morning to make a decision in your life to either receive him as your dance partner, accept him as your Lord and Savior. Or to grab his hand again and to say, Jesus, I want to dance again. Let's stand please her.