

I. Introduction

- Pastor Josh's message last Sunday was excellent. He preached about possessing the Zoe life of God within and allowing it to be filled within us like a wellspring of life overflowing and changing who we are on the outside as well as our circumstances and the culture and climate around us. Awesome message!
- Tonight, I will be sharing with you on the topic of "Life Resets". That somewhat goes with Sunday's message because we are constantly observing and searching for causes and threats of what separates us from the Zoe life of God.

QUESTION: Have you ever had to reset... your computer, phone, your router, cable box, a breaker? AND - what would cause you to have to do a RESET?

Basically, because your device is not working as it should...it's too slow, it's locked up...

NOW - in a computer or data transmission system, a RESET clears any errors and brings a system to a normal condition or to an initial state.

It becomes necessary from time to time to reset some breakers in our lives to see what is sapping our power source. What exactly is causing the disconnect to our ZOE life source? And to use Pastor Joshua's example, why isn't there any air going into my paddle board?

YOU SEE - there are some key areas of our lives that are not functioning properly and need to be brought back to their normal or intended condition.

What if a "reset" is exactly what you need? And what does that really mean? I found some interesting descriptions of what it means to reset something. Here are a few of them:

- To set back to the initial state.
- To set anew.
- To adjust again after an initial failure.

II. Finding The Problem Source

A. When my prayer life is no longer a priority in my day, I might need a reset.

- a. Philippians 4:6,7: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God."
 1. This advice on prayer was written by the apostle Paul to the early church members to encourage them to pray to God about anything and everything that troubled them.
 2. Somewhere down the line I began to take for granted what God has done and I began to lose gratitude for the blessings in my life.
 3. This is how my prayer life fell off my priority list.
 4. This is how anxiety creeps in.

B. If my need to be right is more important to me than keeping the peace, I might need a reset.

- a. Hebrews 12:14 KJV **Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:**
 1. Is it more important to be right or righteous? To be righteous is to be morally right, justifiable, virtuous.
 2. To follow peace with all men is to realize that not everyone is going to agree with me no matter how long I debate with them.
 3. And I have to watch out for the traps of those who like to argue for the sake of arguing to rob me of my peace.

C. If I feel a constant frustration with my walk, I might need a reset.

- a. 2 Chronicles 20:15 **"Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the battle is not yours, but God's."**
 1. I forget the battle is not mine and I'm adding pressure to my life that I am not designed to handle.
 2. I am walking in my own strength, I am fighting a battle that's not mine.
 3. I must be certain I am not serving in an area I am not called to. It will severely impact my ability to be effective in ministry and my personal walk with God.

D. When my walk with God feels more like struggling than joy to me, I might need a reset.

- a. Psalm 51:10-13 **"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence; take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and sustain me with a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners will return to You."**
 1. David recognized in this scripture that something has gotten in the way of the joy of his salvation and it is jeopardizing the presence of the Lord in His life.
 2. Create in me a clean heart, reveal to me the things I cannot see about me. The good, bad and ugly. Renew a right spirit in me. Otherwise I will not be fit not qualified to teach transgressors Your ways and effectively point them toward You.
 3. Renew, reset, restore the joy I once had in you. I want us to be good.

E. When I pray, I struggle believing my prayers will be answered, I might need a reset.

- a. Mark 11:24 **Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.**
 1. The truth is I struggle believing anyone I do not have a relationship with.
 2. When I move away from constant fellowship with Jesus, I am filled with doubt and unbelief and I begin to be filled with doubt.
 3. I've allowed life to twist my lifeline connection to Him.

F. If my personal views, preferences, belief systems and socio-economic status is the deciding factor whether I will love people, speak to people, associate with people, pray for people or intercede for people, I might need a reset.

- a. James 2:2-4 ESV For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, "You sit here in a good place," while you say to the poor man, "You stand over there," or, "Sit down at my feet," have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?
 - 1. In the book of James, Jesus' brother James is talking to the Jewish Christians. Historians say that they had a reputation as being argumentative, quarrelsome and divisive people. That attitude led them to have a lot of battles with each other in the Jewish community and with the Romans. So James writes them and tells them about themselves and he goes in even harder on them in chapter 4.
- b. Romans 2:11 NKJV 11 For God shows no partiality [[a]undue favor or unfairness; with Him one man is not different from another].
 - 1. Paul is sharing that in God's eyes one man is no different from the other and if I treat people as if they are different, I am in sin. I have decided that what God has said does not apply to me. And that's when I know I need a reset.

G. If I am prejudging people and I have not made the effort to know them, I might need a reset.

- a. Matthew 7:1-3 Amplified Bible "Do not judge and criticize and condemn others, so that you may not be judged and criticized and condemned yourselves. 2 For just as you judge and criticize and condemn others, you will be judged and criticized and condemned, and in accordance with the measure you [use to] deal out to others, it will be dealt out again to you.
 - 1. The definition for **prejudge** is to form a judgment on (an issue or person) prematurely and without having adequate information. The reason why being prejudice is so dangerous is because it is one of the most effective weapons of the devil. It keeps non-believers as well as believers apart. If the burden I once possessed to see souls come to Jesus is no longer a burden, I might need a reset.

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- a. In Revelation 2:4-5 Jesus addressed this issue when He spoke to the church of Ephesus. Jesus said: "I have somewhat against thee because thou hast left thy first love. Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works . . .".
 - 1. If you find yourself in this position, ask God to have mercy on you and to rekindle your love for Him.
- I. Every reset is the initiation of beginning again in a different way. It's a matter of resetting the heart to ensure we remain connected to our Zoe life source, a dynamic life, a fruitful life, a joyful and fulfilled life of God.

III. Four Things to Do Before You RESET

1. Remove the lies we've come to believe by clinging to the Word of truth.
 2. Revise our habits so that the destructive ones no longer have a place.
 3. Recommit everything to God and ask Him to reorder your priorities.
 4. Let go of anything that isn't ordained by Him.
- How different would our lives be if we asked God to set things anew and sincerely meant it? Would our daily routines look the same? Would our attitudes remain as they are? **"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."** (2 Corinthians 5:17 NKJV)
 - Giving ourselves permission to hit "reset" is more about living as a new creation in Christ, and less about trying to muddle through life on our own. We don't have to remain in the same old place, entangled in the same old sin. Those things have passed away. We can choose to start over each and every morning!

IV. Closing

Allowing the Lord to set us back to our initial state—the state we were in right after we put our trust in Him—might be the exact kind of reset we need. Think about it...those first days of getting to know the Savior, of spending time with Him, of being overjoyed with new life... what if getting back to more of a child-like faith would make all the difference? Let's not forget the place from which we began; delivered from sin and death and made alive in Christ.

Prayer for a Reset:

Lord, I long for those moments early in my faith when I felt your closeness, your joy, your energy and zest for life. I confess that the daily grind has ground down my passion for you. I confess that I allow the cares of the world to choke out the joy of the gospel. Lord, turn my heart toward you again. Fix my eyes on you, fix my heart on you. Help me have a reset in my faith and in my life, starting today. Renew my heart, renew my life for you and your ways. Help me see the daily routines of life as moments to gracefully submit to your will. Thank you for being the Lord of my life everyday.

In Jesus' Name, Amen."