

# August – From the Pastor’s Desk

2011

Recently my Daily Bible Reading Plan took me to the book of 1 Peter. I was struck by Peter’s quotation of Isaiah 40. I continued to be drawn back to these powerful words.

*All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord stands forever.* – 1 Peter 2:24-25 (NIV)

We experience changes in our jobs, our health, our physical abilities, and our churches that cause us to adjust and adapt. People enter and exit our lives causing us to experience joy and sadness. We face trials and struggles. We find success in our endeavors. The Bible tells us that everything has a season. Everything has a beginning and everything has an end. Many things are fleeting.

In all of this there is one constant that guides us through. One constant remains our anchor in the shifting sands of time. The word of the Lord never changes. The word of the Lord never fails. The word of the Lord stands forever.

This is not a challenge for us to struggle and try to do our best to make sure that nothing changes. It’s a reminder to keep our perspective. It’s a call to order our changing, even chaotic, lives according to God’s word. Our constant in every thought that we have, every word that we speak, and every action that we take should be the word of the Lord.

Jesus said, *“If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.”* The word of the Lord, the word of Jesus Christ stands forever. He has called us to daily sacrificial following. Take up his cross daily and follow me – our thoughts, our words, and our actions must be guided by that command. We are called to sacrificial following for the glory of Jesus Christ.

Along with this sacrifice and following, God gives us the hope and promise of eternal life. Everything else will fade away. Everything else will pale in comparison. The word of the Lord stands forever. The promises of the Lord are certain.

The words of 1 Peter 1:24-25 are a challenge based on a promise. Where is my focus? Is it on my circumstances, my desires, my preferences, my hopes, and my expectations? Or is it on the word of the Lord that stands forever? What about you? Where is your focus? Let’s cling to the word of the Lord that stands forever.

In Christ,  
Pastor Scott