

HOUR of POWER

Hour of Power Deutschland
Steinerne Furt 78
86167 Augsburg

Telefon: 08 21 / 420 96 96
Telefax: 08 21 / 420 96 97

E-Mail: info@hourofpower.de
www.hourofpower.de

Baden-Württembergische Bank
BLZ: 600 501 01
Konto: 28 94 829

IBAN:
DE43600501010002894829

BIC:
SOLADEST600

Büro Schweiz:

Hour of Power Schweiz
Seestr. 11
8594 Göttingen
Tel.: 071 690 07 81
info@hourofpower-schweiz.ch
www.hourofpower-schweiz.ch

Spendenkonto:

PostFinance AG, 3030 Bern
Konto: 61-18359-6
IBAN:
CH160900000610183596

How You Do Anything, Is How You Do Everything

Hour of Power, 23.06.2023

GOOD MORNING – Bobby Schuller (BS) and Hannah Schuller (HS)

BS: This is the day the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it. Good morning.

HS: And welcome visitors and church family. We are so grateful for you. If you are struggling with fear today, I want to encourage you to command it to go. Fear is not of God. God has not given you a spirit of fear, but of love, power and a sound mind. You are loved.

BS: Amen. Let's begin with a word of prayer. Father, we thank you so much for everything you've given to us. Thank you that your spirit is here to break chains, to forgive sins, to renew hearts and minds. Thank you that you love us, God, and we're so grateful for you. It's in Jesus' name we pray, all God's people said, amen.

HS: Amen.

HAVEN: Turn to the person next to you and say God loves you and so do I.

INTERVIEW – Lisa Harper (LH) and Bobby Schuller (BS)

Lisa Harper is a speaker, Bible teacher, and author who brings a fresh, authentic, and sometimes hilarious approach to the Bible and living a life for Jesus. Her new book, JESUS: A Scandalously Devoted, Conspicuously Uncool, Super-Transparent Homage to Who Our Savior Is and How Much He Loves Us Devotional, helps readers understand how to have a deeper and more engaging personal relationship with Jesus.

BS: Lisa, hi! Thank you so much for joining us this morning.

LH: Oh, thank you so much for having me. Although I told you that palm tree in the background makes me a little jealous.

BS: Yes, well it's a special time here in Southern California when it's cold everywhere else but we got nice warm weather, I know.

LH: I know, I know. It just looks beautiful. Meanwhile, we've already got our fireplaces going.

BS: Well we're so glad you're here with us today. We're excited about your new book: Jesus, and I love this title, I had to read it twice: Jesus: A scandalously devoted conspicuously uncool super transparent homage to who our Savior is and how much He loves us. Did I say that right?

LH: Yes.

BS: I think I got a B-minus, probably.

LH: Listen, it's a dead giveaway that concise is not my spiritual gift.

BS: You are a terrific writer, and I'm so glad you're here. So before we jump into your book, tell us a little bit about sort of your faith journey, and I'd love to hear about how you got into writing.

LH: I grew up in a Christian home. I always tease and say that I was in church when I was in utero, so always been in a family of faith, but I was devastated, my dad left us when I was a little girl. And was really devastated by him leaving us, and I remember even as young as I was thinking it must be partly my fault. If only I'd been prettier or sweeter, used my inside voice more. And I know you all don't do this in California, but where I grew up, some of the women in church were gifted at disguising gossip as a prayer request and say they started just throwing a lot of shade at my mom after the divorce, so we moved to a new church, and for the first time I heard a pastor talk about how our heavenly Father doesn't walk away from His kids; that you'll never see His back if you put your hope in Jesus.

So I became a follower of Jesus; I was just itty bitty. I was five years old. I didn't think He liked me very much because by that time there was already a lot of abuse and molestation in my story, so it took a long, long, long time for me to believe, even when I started teaching; I went into youth ministry right out of undergrad. I still.. there is this corner of my heart that was kind of a.. almost an emotional agnostic.

How You Do Anything, Is How You Do Everything

I just thought how in the world a good God like that, a holy God could actually adore a broken, damaged girl like me. Took me a really, really, really long time for my heart to sync with what I would have told you was my theology. But God has been extraordinarily kind to me. I think He has a sweet spot for slow learners.

BS: Yes, that's true. I've found that big life change for me almost is like a.. I don't know if you experienced it this way.. almost like a tank is being full and then it tips and everything spills over. So you can point to the event of like the cup spilling as this event, but you can see that there are all these little things. Was there a moment for you where you sort of.. in that experience with God, kind of felt the cup filling up, and then there was like this tipping experience, or was it just kind of like..

LH: Yes. No, I love that. I love that analogy. Yes, there definitely was a tipping experience. For me, growing up, my mom is who introduced me to Jesus, and so my mom loves Jesus; has been a role model my whole life. But I saw a lot of religiosity. I didn't see a whole lot of relationship when I was younger with Jesus. I saw a lot of checking off that proverbial to-do list, and so I really thought.. I don't know that I understood grace until I was in, and again, that's arrogant save and understand it now. It's like wet soap – it's hard to hang onto. But I don't think I began to get grace until I was in my twenties that I really understood that unmerited favor or began to. There was a tipping, and then it would fill back up, and sometimes it wouldn't fill back up with the truth. I've had to unlearn a lot of what I would have called theology when I was younger. But yes, what tipped out for me was when I was young was the idea that I could really be.. that I could deserve love. So for a long, long, long time, with people and with God, I just resolved to try to be good. Even as a Christ follower, I thought it was really all about my behavior. I didn't get that His love for me had nothing to do with my deservedness or lack thereof. So there have been a lot of proverbial tipping's, pastor, and if I base it in His word and what Holy Spirit reveals, then it fills back up with good stuff, but sometimes I've been foolish enough to let the untruths and the shame fill me back up again. He's kind to knock the bucket over then.

BS: Tell us about your book and about this long subtitle.

LH: Oh, it goes back to my little girl. I became a mom through the miracle of adoption the year I turned 50, so sorry pastor, this is inappropriate for you, but I say I went through menopause and motherhood at the exact same time. I love my little girl. She's just amazing. She's 14 now, but I brought her home from Haiti when she was four. But we were driving home from school about a year ago, I was driving her home from school, and she had her first big crush in the 6th grade. And so she was telling me all about this little boy, and how they have to wear uniforms at her school, but she was telling me about his shoes and his socks and the inflection of his voice when he talked to the math teacher, and what was in his lunchbox. I mean she had memorized every facet of this little boy's life. Of course he was oblivious to her crush, but she was just absolutely pre-occupied with everything about this little boy's life. And as I watched her tell me about this little boy, and her face was just back lit with joy, I thought I remember when I used to be like that about Jesus. And I remember when every tiny thing that I could know about Jesus just thrilled me that my heart would just feel like a balloon blowing up with air. And I thought I want to get back to that first love. I've been in school for the better part of my adult life and I'm finishing up a doctorate, so I know a lot of facts about God, and sometimes if I'm not careful, I'll study God and His word as a proposition, rather than a person with whom to engage. And just listening to Missy on the way home from school, I thought I want to fall deeper in love with Jesus. But I just did this deep dive into Jesus, incarnate Jesus, transcendent Jesus. The Bible never uses the word "laugh" specifically about Jesus, but He uses so many funny analogies. He had this wonderful sense of humor. He was invited to parties, which kind of shows you He wasn't a kill-joy. He was so deeply compassionate. Mark's whole gospel is really about the compassion of Christ. So I spent about a year just kind of hanging, spending every moment I could with Jesus, and then I wrote this devotional. And the subtitle.. I am not a great writer, you're kind to say, I'm a decent writer. I am a great reader. I love to read, but I'm a kind of mediocre writer, but the only non-negotiable I had with my publisher.. this is a follow up to another devotional called Life, is I said I want another long crazy subtitle because to me that just kind of proves it's not going to be too stiff or too rigid. Like I want amazing content. So we talk about the hypostatic union. I mean there's all this stuff about Jesus that's pretty chewy content, but I said I want people to know it's not going to be threatening. You're going to get a whole of the foibles of my life. I mean when I look back over.. I've been walking with Jesus more than 50 years, there are more pits than there are pinnacles. He has dug me out of every pit that I've landed in, and just carried me to new places.

How You Do Anything, Is How You Do Everything

So I wanted to be real honest about a lot of my mistakes. But move towards Jesus. That's really the definition of holiness. I love that the late great Tim Keller said that the first step to accessing holiness is not our behavior, it's us admitting that we need help.

BS:Amen. The book is called A scandalously.. I'm going to try it, okay? A scandalously devoted conspicuously uncool super transparent homage to who our Savior is and how much He loves us. Jesus, the devotional. Thank you, Lisa Harper!

LH: That's it! You did it better than me, pastor.

BS: Thank you.

LH: Oh, thank you for having me. I love your ministry. I so appreciate getting to be on with you today.

BS: Thank you, Lisa. God bless you. We appreciate you.

LH: God bless you, too.

SCRIPTURE – Luke 16,10-12 – Hannah Schuller

In preparation for the message, Luke 16:10. "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you your own? The word of the Lord.

DECLARATION – Bobby Schuller

BS: Would you stand with me? Hold your hands like this as a way of receiving from the Lord. Let's say this together: I'm not what I do. I'm not what I have. I'm not what people say about me. I am the beloved of God. It's who I am. No one can take it from me. I don't have to worry, I don't have to hurry, I can trust my friend Jesus and share His love with my neighbor. Thanks you can be seated.

MESSAGE – Bobby Schuller – How You Do Anything, Is How You Do Everything

I get the question a lot and it's a huge compliment. People ask 'how can I send that sermon to my friend.' If it's on TV, or I'm in the church, how can I get ahold of it and send it to a friend. The answer is YouTube. If you go to YouTube, we have a pretty good following, and you can click on any of these sermons and you can text it to a friend. Or, if you want, you can listen to it again. Some people like to listen to some of these sermons a few times. I think that's a great way to learn, and I would encourage you to do that. And if you're on YouTube, please subscribe. You know why? I know what I should say. I should say to help the kingdom of God and to inspire people, but the truth is, if you get a hundred thousand subscribers, you get this silver plaque that has like our church name on it. And as shallow as that is, we're so close. We just need like a few more, and by a few, I mean about 30,000. But we got about 70,000. Well, anyway. All right, here we go. I have a life-changing idea for you today. Anytime I give a sermon, I want it to just ooze with value, and I think this will help you. Here's a life-changing idea – how you do anything is how you do everything. Is it always true? No, it's mostly true, like many things. It's mostly true that how you do anything is how you do everything. It sounds judgey. It sounds like I'm pointing my finger or looking down at people but I'm not, it's the opposite. It's the opposite because our messiness, our lack of care, our lack of excellence is actually rooted in the idea that the thing that I'm doing doesn't really matter. That unless I'm getting paid for it, it doesn't really matter. That unless somebody's watching, it doesn't really matter. And my belief is that that idea that it doesn't really matter is rooted in a deeper emotion I don't really matter. How do I know? Because I've felt it before, and I'm sure I'll feel it again. My guess is every single person in this room has had low times where they don't feel like they really matter; where they don't feel like their life has made an impact or a difference; where they don't feel like they're going anywhere; where they don't feel like God loves them or knows them or even exists. And so it's easy to feel in that world that all that I do doesn't really matter that much. Why? Because I don't really matter that much. And I want to destroy that false idea today. It comes from hell. It makes your life into hell. Here's what heaven is. Here's what the gospel is. Here's the truth for you today – you are loved by God. You're loved by God. This is the right place to start when we talk about doing things with excellence. This is the right place to start when we talk about doing little things that nobody sees with power and goodness. Because here's why – if that's true, if you really are loved by God, then everything you do matters, actually, because it matters to God. Even the little things. Here's what I'm trying to say – your life has eternal significance. Your life has real eternal significance. There's a theory in the university, actually, and studies that show this. I've talked about it before.

How You Do Anything, Is How You Do Everything

It's called chaos theory. Now I've actually literally had pastors tell me stop talking about chaos theory. You talk about it too much. Here's why I like to talk about chaos theory is because it shows, scientifically, that every human life makes an impact on history. There's been movies about it from the Simpson's Treehouse of Horror to Sliding Doors to the movie the Butterfly Effect. The idea is that we can see that when a little thing happens today over hundreds or thousands of years, that little thing can have waves of impacts on history. The Butterfly Effect or the chaos theory idea is from Edward Lawrence, say something like this – that it could be that the flap of a butterfly's wings in Alaska eventually cause a tornado in Texas. Spiritually speaking, I've often wondered something like what if the worst events on people in the world – a Stalin, a Hitler, what if they're the result of some unkind thing someone did to somebody else a hundred years before. God can answer that question. God can see. Or the reverse. What if a Mother Teresa or a Dr. King or some of these great saints of our day that brought tremendous positive change to the world, and touched so many lives, what if they're the result of one kind thing another one person did to another person that nobody saw, except those two. And that there was this cascading effect that led to these special human beings blessing our world. God can see. God can see it. He can see the whole thing unfolding. So here's what I'm really trying to get at. Here's what I want you to get into your heart this morning is that your life has immeasurable results after you're gone. Just coming to church today, weirdly, is going to have, or watching Hour of Power, is going to have, I think, positive effects on the world even after you die. And I think there's actually a mathematical theory that can prove that. All right, and that leads us to the Bible verse I'm going to teach on today. This is a weird one. Anybody like weird Bible verses? Read Revelation. Luther and Calvin and others, I don't think they ever did commentaries on Revelation because it was so weird. But we're not talking about Revelation today, we're talking about Luke 16. And people ask me sometimes how do you pick what you're going to preach on, and I actually have.. I used to do sermon series. I've decided to stop doing that, and now for years I have just simply followed a 400-year-old lectionary that basically picks Bible verses, it's a Reformed lectionary that picks Bible verses that was pre-set years ago in an ancient synod, and that way I'm forced to preach on whatever comes up. I preach on the Bible. Otherwise I'd always preach on Matthew 5, Colossians 3, Romans 8 and Romans 12, right? That would be like almost all my sermons, right? But this forces me. And when I got here, I realized I've never heard a sermon on this passage. You know why? Because it's weird. It's very weird. You ready to get to the weird one? It's a whole parable, whole story. Interestingly enough, this comes after the most famous parable in the Bible, the Prodigal Son parable. Same table, same Pharisees, same people. Jesus begins a story like this. He says there was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions. So he called him in and asked him 'what is this I hear about you? Give me an account of your management because you can no longer be a manager any longer.' The manager said to himself, what shall I do now? My master is taking away my job. I'm not strong enough to dig and I'm ashamed to beg. I know what I'll do. When I lose my job here, people will welcome me into their houses. Now just pause here for a minute. What's happening? There's a rich guy, right? A rich guy owns a bunch of property all over the place and he's got this manager who does all of his books and manages all of his accounts. He's got, we could maybe say a CFO, right? He's got a CFO and he realizes the CFO is not very good, and he asks this guy, what is going on? Are my possessions aren't good. This guy knows what: he's about to get fired is the word we're looking for. Fired. But he hasn't been fired yet, for whatever reason. The clock is ticking, he knows its coming, so he's got to bundle up all the books, present them to his boss, and then the boss is going to fire him. But before he does that, he makes a couple changes. Goes on to say.. yes, he said what shall I do now. I'm not strong enough to dig, etc., etc., I know what I'll do, so that when I lose my job here, people will welcome me into their houses. So he called in each of his master's debtors. He asked the first one – hey buddy (that's in the Greek, don't worry) hey buddy, how much do you owe my master? Nine hundred gallons of olive oil, he replied. That's a lot of olive oil, guys, unless you're Italian. Nothing, huh? All right. Manager told him, take your bill, okay so this is great. This is the CFO, right? He's saying okay, this is what I want you to do. Take your bill, sit down quickly and make it \$450. Cut it in half. How is that guy feeling? Pretty excited, right? Next guy. Then he asked the second – how much do you owe? A thousand bushels of wheat, he said. He told him take your bill and make it 800. What is he doing? What's he doing? What's this manager doing? All right, his boss is rich, but so are these guys, right? If you've got a thousand bushels of wheat, you're doing pretty good. If you got a hundred.. whatever it was, nine hundred gallons of olive oil, or something.

How You Do Anything, Is How You Do Everything

You're doing really well. What it likely is the master, the main boss probably owns all the land, has some kind of land lease, and then when these guys get their harvest, they're supposed to give a portion of it. Here's what this guy's doing. He's saying something like my boss.. so it sounds like he's say.. what everybody would have known, he was saying my boss is saying take your 900 and make it 450. My boss is saying take your whatever thousand and make it 800. So what are they saying? Wow! Your boss, John, he's a great guy and they honor him, maybe they throw him a party, maybe they do some kind of celebratory thing like this. So it's a very, very clever thing that this CFO guy is doing because on the one hand, he's doing it in his master's name so the master gets all of this honor, but if the master then fires the CFO, then they'll know, and puts the books back, then he'll lose his honor and he won't get all of the acclaim, and, that guy, that CFO, is now going to have what? A new job. Either harvesting wheat or olive oil. So what does the boss say? He's got this weird dilemma, right? What does the boss say? He says, and this is the strangest part about the Bible verse, then it gets weirder from here. It's not what you think he would say. The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted – what's the word? Shrewdly. For people of this.. now this is Jesus talking to us, okay? Now He's explaining the parable. "For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light." What's that mean? There's something we Christians can learn. He's saying there's something you can learn. There's something here you can learn. It doesn't seem very religious. If you have eyes to see and ears to hear, there's something you can learn. What is it we learn? Next verse. Here's what we can learn. I tell you use worldly wealth to gain friends. Wait, what? Use money to get friends? Yes, this is going to be a big part of our sermon today. Use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves so that when it's gone, you'll be welcomed into eternal dwellings. Here's something that's better than money: friends! It's better to have a friend with a boat than it is to have a boat. Here's something that's better than money. Here's something that's better than money: invisible eternal treasure. The sermon is not about money, but let me just pause here for a moment. My guess is that most of the elite business titans today around the world that all of them would feel confident that if you took all of their money away, that within three years, they would be rich again. How is that? How is that? There is something invisible, in experience and education and network is something that is not money that still exists for that person. So what does the world say? The world says use your money to build up that invisible portfolio. And what does Jesus tell us in Matthew 5, which is what does Jesus say in Matthew 5? "Store up for yourselves treasures in the heavens." So the heavens is not heaven where I go when I die, the heavens is the air around me. It's the air. So that there's a way I can use money to convert it by letting go of the money to attain something deeper, something better that still has financial results, but other results as well. We're going to get into that a little bit more. I'm going too slow. Luke chapter 16, he carries on. He finally says, Jesus is talking to you. "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much." God is watching, who here wants to be trusted with much? I want you to raise your hand so God can see it. Who here wants to be trusted with much? What does the Bible say? If you want to be trusted with much, do good with a little. Do really good with a little. If you do better with a little, you'll get more. And whoever is dishonest with very little, will be dishonest with much. So if you've not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? And if you've not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own? All right, there are two huge points I want to get to today in the last 14 minutes. I think I can do it. Here's the first point – number one – the little things in your life matter to God. They really, really do. The little things in your life, they matter to God. Here's another way to say it – all things in the world are big things to God, especially if they're big things to you. Why? Because He loves you. He loves you, and so do I, by the way. He loves you. If God loves you, then the little things in your life that you think are no big deal to God, are big things. And so in that strange way, in God's view, some of the things that we think are huge things are actually nothing, and some of the little things are actually humungous. Think about it this way – a dad buys a kid, his son, a toy, and the toy is only five dollars, it's not super expensive. And the kid adores this toy. He loves it. He plays with it all the time, and one day he loses the toy. Begins to cry. Gets very sad. This toy is nothing. Its five dollars. It's trivial. It's almost nothing. Except for to the boy, and except for to the dad. Right? Why is it a big deal to the dad that he lost his toy? It's just five dollars, who cares? Doesn't matter. Why does it matter to the dad? Because the dad loves the son. Here's what we know that it wouldn't be a big deal is if the dad didn't care about the son. See the dad doesn't care about the toy, he cares about the son. Here's another way to say it. A kid with his dad at the convenience store sees one of those trays – two pennies, three pennies.

How You Do Anything, Is How You Do Everything

Kid looks around, dad is watching from ten feet away, when the clerk turns his back, kid reaches, takes one penny, sticks it in his pocket, smirks and stands like this. Now what can we say about that penny? We can say that it's trivial. That it's nothing. That the convenience store clerk probably won't even notice. No big deal, right? It's not a big deal to anyone, except for who? To the dad. To the dad. And so the dad judges the child. The dad reprimands the child. Why? Why? Because he loves him. You see, the judgment of the father on the son is an act of love! If it was a babysitter who doesn't love the child, if it was just a babysitter, she's probably not going to reprimand the child. She's not getting paid enough for that, right? We'll just go, it's fine, it's a penny, who cares. Unless, the babysitter loves the child. If the babysitter loves the child, he'll be reprimanded. Do you understand, my friend? That these things that seem like little things in your life are big things to God because He loves you. The little things you do, it's all important to God. Here's another way of saying it. It doesn't matter how old you are. In God's eyes, you're still a kid. Anybody here on the old-ish side of things feel like you're still kind of a kid, just another show of hands? I kind of feel like a kid still? I'm older, but I can't believe they let me do the stuff I get to do, I mean.. I still felt that way, I remember when I had my first child. One day I'm in the hospital, like here's your baby. Leave. And I'm like you're just going to give me this thing? Like.. one day you like.. I'm not a professional like you. In God's eyes, you're still a kid. Forgive me for pointing out my Grandpa Pursley who's here today. Ninety-six years old! All right, served in the Second World War. But forgive me, grandpa, 96 is old. I don't mean that as a.. that's old, right? Well you would say so. He said never say that I'm 96 years young. I hate that. But in God's eyes, my Grandpa Pursley is still a kid. You see? And he's still a kid. Because if you're God, how many years is a hundred years, or a hundred and fifty years, or two hundred years. How much is that for an eternal being that's existed forever? It's nothing. We're all children in God's eyes. You see? And actually that's true of many of the things that we think are a big deal. Compare what we as adults think is a big deal. What's an amount of money that every person in this room would think is a big deal? Let's go with a hundred million dollars. Every single person in here would say a hundred million dollars is a big deal. What is a hundred million dollars to God? It's nothing, really. It's a penny in a tray. Here's another way of saying it. The difference between a hundred million dollars and one dollar for God is about the same on this little ball of water floating around the universe, around the sun, in the vast universe, He holds the whole thing in His hands. How much is it to Him? It's nothing, except, when it affects you, then it's everything. Did you catch that? And see this is the struggle that all of us have – except when it has to do with you. Why? Because you're His child. So for Him, it matters to Him because it matters to you. Isn't that love lingo? Isn't that special? So an example, we were praying with a friend a few years ago and she asked us to pray for her husband who had cancer. We prayed for him. And then she told us, (she's drinking a lot of water), she said I have this dry mouth. It bothers me every day, and my mouth, I don't create enough saliva and it bothers me. I don't like it. And of course Hannah says, well, let us pray for you. And what was her response? She said oh it's not a big deal. It's not a big deal. So she literally went from it bothers me every day to when we said let us pray for you, she said it's not a big deal. It's not a big deal. What is she actually saying? And I understand, this is not a judgment, right? I've felt this way before. She's comparing it to her husband's cancer, or even more, she's saying don't bother God with this, is really what she's saying, isn't she. She's like don't bother God with my dry mouth. Don't bother God with this little problem. We've already prayed for the other thing. But here's what I would say as a pastor who knows the Lord and knows His heart, I would say God is already bothered by this. If it bothers her, it bothers Him. You think God can't handle cancer and dry mouth at the same time? I sure think He could. And the reason it bothers Him is because she's His beloved daughter. If something bothers her, it bothers the Lord. And you're His beloved son, His beloved daughter. And He sees your broken heart, and He sees what you've gone through, and He sees the pain, He sees what you've faced, but I want you to know He loves you, and the past is the past and all that lies before you is possibility, open doors. It's all possible for you. It's all possible for you if today you get this idea in your heart that God sees you even now, that He loves you, and even little things matter to Him, and if you do the little things right today, you'll get the big things tomorrow. Stop thinking so much about all that went wrong, and start thinking today, my friend, that the door is going to open for you today. Start doing the little things and the big things will appear. Be faithful, take some risk. Good things are coming for you. Perhaps our lack of faith in prayer is rooted in the false idea that we're not that important to God. Here's what Satan hates hearing me say, and that's why I like to say it all the time. Satan's in here, he's sitting in the pew next to someone. Elbow him in the ribs for me, if you get a chance. Somebody just elbowed their husband.

How You Do Anything, Is How You Do Everything

Here's what Satan hates hearing me say – that you are immensely just loved by God. That you are beloved. Beloved. God gave His only Son Jesus Christ for you. That was a trade. God gave Jesus Christ on the cross for you. He made a trade. And can I tell you, it was worth it. Now if you're a Pharisee, all the alarms went off. Hold on now. Hold on. It's not worth it. No, no, hold on now. Does God make mistakes, my friend? Does God do anything that is not worth doing? I certainly hope not. In God's eyes, it was worth it or He wouldn't have done it, so if in God's eyes it's worth it, in my eyes it's worth it. You are worth it. Don't turn down that gift of God's love and friendship towards you. You matter to Him. He loves you. Commit your life to Him. So here's what Satan hates hearing me say. The gospel! That God so what the world? Hey, here's something the Bible says about you: behold what manner of love the Father has given unto us that we should be called children of God. Wow! Here's what the Bible says: you're the apple of God's eye. Anybody who pokes you in the eye, pokes God in the eye. Whoa! Here's something the Bible says: nothing can separate us from God's love. Whoa! Your problems matter to God. You can trust Him. God wants victory in your life. You can live with power and you can pray with confidence. He's here right now. And by the way, Satan has left the building. It's been like nails down a chalkboard (MAKES SCRATCHING NOISE) no, all my hard work is melting away! No! Therefore, all the things in your life are more important than you think. Here's really where the rubber meets the road. The little stuff in your life is super important. So do the best you can. You don't have to do more than the best, just do the best. Do your best, forget the rest. Pour it on. Do what you do with excellence. How you do anything is how you do everything. How you do anything is how you do everything. Create wonderful things. Serve people in wonderful ways. Leave things better than you found them. Friend of mine owns rental property. He said he had a house, tenants, and they left it as trash. It was a beautiful house, and when they left it, it was trash. Imagine that. That there's people in this world that everything they touch, it turns to trash. That it gets worse. It gets dirtier. It gets ugly. There are videos online now, especially here in California of these mobs of people, usually young people that will go into stores in groups of ten or five, and they'll all grab a bunch of stuff and you'll see a store owner crying, trying to stop them from stealing his inventory, and they're stealing money and they're messing up things. They're turning it to trash. And if you read the comment section, you'll see people saying 'throw them into jail.' Saying things like 'these people are trash and they're vile' and 'look at these snakes and look at these dogs.' They are trash. But can I tell you, that there is someone who said that first and the person who said that first is the thief. They looked in the mirror and they said I'm trash. All I come from is trash, all I touch is trash, and so it doesn't matter. And here's what will set our country free from that is the gospel. Is telling those kids that all they do matters and remind them that it's not trash, that that store owner is not trash, that their lives matter to God. And this is one of the most important thing that older adults, that we as older adults need to do is to keep investing in the young generation and teaching them that everything they do, even the little things it matters. Anyway. Here's a great word – avodah. It's Hebrew. It means that all of the work I do is worship. When I clean the floors, its worship. When I dress, its worship. When I prepare food, its worship. When I drive, its worship. The people I work with. I'm honoring God with my life. The Bible says it. If you do good with a little, you'll do good with a lot. You want more? Be excellent in all that you do. Okay. Just a few minutes left. Here's the second point of the text. That one was important to me, as you can see. Here's the second part of the text, and this is the weird one. Use money to create invisible wealth. There are three ways I think you can use money to create an invisible wealth. The first one, Jesus tells us plainly, use your money to make friends. This is where we can learn a lot from the world. It's the rule of reciprocity. Sometimes you go to a restaurant, and the server, she's going to bring a bill, or he's going to bring a bill to your table, and there's going to be a little mint in there, like a little Andes mint or something. Costs about three cents. Your tip statistically is going to go.. how much do you think that mint cost you? Cost you about three or four dollars. Now you don't have to put three or four dollars, but something weird happens that when I got a mint and a smiley face that said thank you for coming, I'm going to add a couple of bucks on the bill. You go into the car dealership, say oh I'm looking around for a car. I'm not going to buy anything today. What's the first thing they do? They give you a bottle of water. What does that cost, about twenty-five cents? Here's a bottle of water, buy a car from us. And believe it or not, they've done studies on it, statistically your odds of buying a car go way up. Charities, they send you these little like sticker things, has your name, Bobby Schuller, right? And your address, and whoa, it's Yosemite and it's so beautiful, and this was free, just keep it, it's just on us. Just free. But here's a return envelope just in case. Right? All right, I'll give you \$20. All right. Here's the second way. Second way you can create invisible wealth. You can increase your favor with God.

How You Do Anything, Is How You Do Everything

Yes, you can do that. The Bible says if you tithe, He's going to open up the storehouses of heaven and pour out abundance on your life. The Bible says anyone who gives to the poor lends to God. Give to the poor. Watch how doors will open for you if you become generous. If you have a need, plant a seed. Here's the third way that you can use money to create invisible wealth. Now you've heard me say this a million times. If you haven't heard this, you've never been to Shepherd's Grove. Invest in you. I hear people say, I got a thousand bucks. I've saved up a thousand dollars, I want to invest this money. What's the best return I can get on this thousand dollars? And they're looking for answer like should I buy some Crypto? Negative. Should I buy some NFT's? Should I invest in the S&P500? Maybe I should buy some real estate. No, no. If all you've got is a thousand bucks and you've saved it up and you want to invest it, here's how you invest it: you buy a thousand dollars worth of books and you read them. That will return much more than the seven percent you get in the S&P500. Or, you buy a class that will increase your income. Yes, you're one skill away from doubling your income. That's the truth. Or, you buy an audible account. If you don't like reading very much but you're stuck in traffic a lot, buy audible, get a membership, download books like You Are Beloved and Change Your Thoughts, Change Your World by Bobby Schuller or whatever you want; whatever you want. Just if you're looking for a start. Yes, I know. I have a friend, okay, a real life example, a guy I met, talking to him, he says, he's got all the hours, and all the classes to become a contractor, a licensed contractor. He says I've taken all the classes, I've got all the journeyman hours, all that's left is for me to take a test. And if he takes that test, his income will double or triple. So I ask him well why haven't you taken the test? And his answer was, COVID. COVID. And so I said to him, okay, that makes sense. You couldn't take the test during COVID? He said technically you could, which means you could and I said well why didn't you? He said well you know COVID, we were all in COVID and I said okay, but man it's been three years now. Why haven't you taken it? And he goes, you know what, I should. Now here's what he meant – when somebody says "you know what, I should," that means I hear what you're saying, but I won't. For sure! Here's how I know he would take it. He would say – by golly, I will. There's a difference between you know I should, and, I will. If he said I will, it probably would have happened. Now this isn't about money, this is about something that's happening inside of us. What was happening inside of this guy I was talking to? I don't really know, but when I have felt that way, I think it's a bunch of things. One, can I really lead a team. One, it sounds hard, there's so many other less horrible things I feel like doing. One, I'm afraid I won't pass. But at the heart of all of it is this idea that his life can't be bigger than it is. What a lie. Your life can be bigger than it is now. God wants it to be bigger. Bigger ideas. You can touch more lives. You can build more things. You can make more. You can do more. You can achieve more. You can dream more. You can do it all. If you change what's in here, and what's in here. If you know that you are loved by God, that all that you do matters, and that when you do more good in the world it has a cascading effect on eternity. Today is a great day to break free from the kind of thinking that keeps you in chains from becoming all that you've been called to be. Not becoming all that you were called to be messes with your mind, it messes with your mind. Get rid of it, in Jesus' name. Get rid of it. Not because of the money, but because of who you're called to become. And the last idea, I'll just finish with this, every single person here, the most important decision we can make is to follow Jesus. Some of you have lost your way, maybe you went to church when you were a kid, or your grandma was a Christian, and you have nice feelings about God, but you've never really decided, some of you really don't know much about Christianity, but you're in church for the first time or you're watching for the first time. I want you to know that Jesus Christ laid His life down on the cross so that we could live at peace with God; that He could give us visions and dreams. That He could guide our paths. That He could open life to us, and most of all, that we could be forgiven of our sins and we could be in heaven with Him when we die. I want to encourage you to make a decision to trust your life to Jesus today. If you do that, will you text me the word HOPE to the number on the screen? I know your life will never be the same. Father in heaven, we ask you'd forgive us of our sins. And I ask for every person here who's eyes are looking to the floor, who's chin is to their chest, who's heart is feeling hard or frozen, for every person here who's lost a dream, who's been betrayed, who's been hurt by the things of life, that they would know today things are going to be different. They would know today things are going to be different. They're going to be different. They're going to be different. Lord that something can happen in our hearts and minds right now. That we can change, and if we change, everything will change. We can decide today to believe again. We can decide today to achieve again, and we can decide today to strive again. We can decide today to give it all, and so we do. Not for us, but for you. For you, Lord. Our work is our worship. Our work is our worship.

How You Do Anything, Is How You Do Everything

Let it be for you. The little things, the big things, we don't care anymore, it's for you, God. It is for you. We love you, Lord. Thank you for your Holy Spirit. I pray special favor over everyone who heard this message that doors will open for them this week, and I pray it in Jesus' name, amen.

BENEDICTION – Bobby Schuller

BS: And now the Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift His countenance upon you and give you His peace, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, amen.