



ROCK CHURCH

Guest Pastor Dave Martin "MAKE TODAY COUNT"

July 30, 2017

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Encouragement. Today Dave Martin gave us a Biblical look at how you and I can make today great, live an intentional life, and ultimately, make today count!

He asked us if we believe God can do something great in the last part of the year? How many football teams come back and have a better second half than first half? Then he broke down the months, weeks and brought us to see the reality of today. We only have today. So how do we make today count? Dave gave us three ways to Make today Count:

1. **Own your day.** It's our responsibility. If we want to make today count we cannot pass the blame to the dog, boss, spouse, or kids. We have to own our mistakes and get beyond our excuses. We are not victims. Yes life is hard but we have to learn how to get past our past. Dave gave the example of Nelson Mandela who rose above the mistreatment and went on to win the Nobel Peace Prize. Image how different South Africa and the world would be if Mr. Mandela didn't make each day count.
2. **Order your day.** Make a plan and know where you are going today. Remember, your airplane ticket is based on where you are going. Psalm 119:105 says, "Your Word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path." God's Word gives us direction in life; it shows us the path God wants us on. Where are you going? Who is leading?
3. **Occupy your day.** Occupy means to fill, to establish, and live in. Dave said "don't just watch the parade; join the parade". Wherever you are be all there. Get planted. Find a place to serve, give and went on to explain the joy of tithing by using a real pie with whipped cream! He explained by using the first cut piece and giving it to God and then what we do with the rest of the pie is blessed. H explained this is not with just money but with any part of our life we withhold from God. Dave said this is where trusting God and faith come into place.

Icebreaker: Evander Holyfield said " It's not getting knocked down that loses a fight; it is not getting back up that loses the fight." Describe how you got back up after being 'knocked down'. Was there anyone who helped or motivated you?

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Scripture: Have several people in group look up the following verses: Psalm 32:8, Proverbs 3:6, Isaiah 30:21, John 10:27. Read each scripture and discuss:

What do these scriptures say about God? His leadership? His promises? His word? And man? What is our responsibility when it comes to letting God lead?

Discuss a time when God was leading you to go one way but you wanted to go another way? How did it turn out?

Dave said, "What you hear, eventually you will believe." What is something you have heard/ said to yourself that you eventually believed? Was it true? How did you know if it was true or not?

Discuss how you can start making today count. What kind of person do you want to be? What kind of life do you want to live? Or what vision does God have for your life?

Share about when it was hard to trust in God. What helped in building trust? How was your faith or trust shaken or broken?



Prayer: The Bible says, "Understanding your Word brings light to the minds of ordinary people" (Psalm 119:130 CEV). God wants to give light — His light — to every single person. He wants to light up our minds with the truth of who he is and his next step for our lives.

One of the best ways to turn on the light of God's Word is to pray God's Word, like want to see wonderful things from God's Word, right? Ask God to open your eyes to where he wants you to be planted. Ask Him to help you make today count.



Next Steps: Dave said we don't have to settle for an unfulfilled life. You don't have to get stuck or remain stuck. But there is a price tag to achieve your potential and realize your dreams. The key question is whether or not you are willing to pay that price.

1. What is the primary obstacle that keeps you from making today count? How can this group help you overcome it?
2. What is one thing you are already good at that you want to be better? What can you do this week to start improving? How can we as a group help you?
3. What do you believe is your greatest area of potential? What could you do with it?
 - Write out a simple plan for ways you can own, order and occupy your day. It may be a long process to get there, but your plan must be short and simple or you will likely not stick with it. Choose one person from group to help you stay accountable to your plan.
 - God's Word teaches us sound doctrine. When was the last time you memorized a verse? Memorize Psalm 119:105. Consider memorizing one verse a week.
 - Don't know God's purpose? Sign-up for LIFE Class to find out how to use your God-given gifts and talents to make today count.