

WELCOME

Our Mission is to . . .

- Connect you to Jesus
- Connect you to His community for discipleship
- Connect you to your mission and purpose in life

We are not here to tell you what to wear, eat, listen to, vote for, or even believe. These are things you must determine for yourself if you want to have real faith. We are here to give you truth, facts, tools and point out that every choice, every belief, and every action you make is tied to an outcome in your life. You can't do life without developing a strong foundation and becoming a person of substance. This is your journey, your discovery, and you will reap the benefit of the work you do.

FHNew - Our mission as a church is to do everything we can to help you grow your faith. If you would like to get to know us a little better or begin or continue your journey of faith, text **FHNew** to **53123** and we will send you a link to a few short videos about Foothills Church, or stop by the **Connection booth in the Atrium.**

You can also fill out a **Connect card** using the QR code on the screen or the actual card on the back of the chair in front of you. If you have a **PRAYER REQUEST**, this is a good place to write it out and place in the ORANGE offering box in the back of the Sanctuary.

FHBaptism - One important step in your faith journey is being baptized. To learn more about baptism, text **FHBaptism** to **53123** and we will send you the teaching on Believers' Baptism.

ONGOING/UPCOMING

- **MomCo** - [Foothills MomCo - Foothills Church \(churchcenter.com\)](https://www.churchcenter.com)
- **Small Groups** - [Foothills Church \(churchcenter.com\)](https://www.churchcenter.com)
- **Pour Over with the Pastor (monthly)** – Visiting? New to Foothills? Come learn about Foothills and what we believe **TODAY** during 2nd service **in the Atrium**
- **Operation Christmas Child** – [Donations](#) & [Volunteers](#) needed. [Pack party November 21](#)

INTRODUCTION: Interim Pastor Trent Renner

PARDON OUR DUST – GOD'S CONSTRUCTION PLAN

SERIES RECAP

- The US in dUSt - GAGJ (Week 1)
- Conflict Map... (Week 2)
 - BEING informs KNOWING informs DOING....

SO NOW WHAT? Now I want to lead us into KNOWING & DOING

You are, at this very moment, in the **biggest war** you will ever wage in your life. You are fighting for what you'll one day become. There are forces clashing for influence in your heart, soul, mind, and strength that you might not recognize until you are able to look back on a year from now and see what you've become.

Winning this war is best done by understanding what my future holds...

- “Where there is no vision, the people perish” **Proverbs 29:18a (KJV)**
- Knowing where you are in a race makes all the difference
- Everything in life fluctuates through the **6 Phases of God’s Construction plan**

PHASE 1 of God’s Construction Plan: DREAM

- It starts with a DREAM
- **Exodus 3:7-10 (NIV)** *The Lord said, “I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. 8So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. 9And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. 10So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.”*

How do I know if my goals/dreams are God’s will?

- We must wrestle the details and include wise council from others
 - “Where there is no guidance, a people fall, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.” **Proverbs 11:14**
- “Litmus Test” -- **God’s WILL will never go against God’s WORD**
- **Observation:** We often ask for God’s answer about things He doesn’t care about

A God-sized DREAM will scare us

- Moses knew this... *“Lord, please! Send someone else.” Exodus 4:13 (NLT)*
- Dreams un-acted upon are just dreams
 - Vision without action remains just a dream
 - Make a **DECISION** to pursue it!

PHASE 2 of God’s Construction Plan: DECISION

- **Exodus 5:1...** *“Moses and Aaron went and said to Pharaoh ...this is what God says...”*
- To decide isn’t just mental...a decision is proven through **action!**

The word **DECIDE** originates from the phrase “To Cut Away”

- Moses and Aaron DECIDED to honor the Lord...and did all go well? No
 - Critics and Consequences

HOW do I know if I am making the right DECISION?

- ...cut away...
- “HOW” is determined by WHO I want to please
- Who do I want to please?
 - Run from the Pitfall of Saul: *“Then Saul admitted to Samuel, “Yes, I have sinned. I have disobeyed the Lord’s command, for I was afraid of the people and did what they demanded.” 1 Samuel 15:24 (NLT)*

THE CHOICE

- Pain of CONSEQUENCES or Pain of DISCIPLINE
 - We often hope that when we make a decision to honor the Lord and do good, that we will receive a REWARD immediately
 - But...God usually cares more about your character than your comfort

PHASE 3 of God’s Construction Plan: DELAY

- **Exodus 5:22-23 (ESV) ... Dream Delayed!** *“Then Moses turned to the Lord and said, “O Lord, why have you done evil to this people? Why did you ever send me? For since I came to Pharaoh to speak in your name, he has done evil to this people, and you have not delivered your people at all.”*
- **RESULT:** PHAROAH makes the Israelites retrieve straw + meet the brick quota

Why delays: GOLD-SWORD-DIAMOND

- What do I do in a delay? **Trust God's Promises & Timing**
- *"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord." Isaiah 55:8 (NIV)*
- *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."*
Proverbs 3:5-6 (ESV)

What did Moses and Aaron do?

- *"Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and did just as the Lord commanded."*
Exodus 7:10

In DELAYS, TRUST God and be FAITHFUL

At this phase, we often think the pain of delays has prepared us enough and we are now ready for the TROPHY...the reward

But...God is not finished with you yet!

- He loves you just the way you are, but He loves you too much
- He knows that there is more in you!

PHASE 4 of God's Construction Plan: DIFFICULTY

- 10 Plagues...
 - Difficulty will try to drown me in the things I love (Idols)
- Exodus 7–11: False God's of Egypt
 - God will use difficulty to develop our character by making us realize our hope in things other than God (idols & false beliefs) are fake and that we must TRUST the Lord our God above all
 - IDOLATRY is seeking security and meaning in someone or something other than God -- it's exchanging the truth of God for a lie
- **Romans 1:21-22** *For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools 23and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.*

IN THE FACE OF DIFFICULTY

- I MUST DEVELOP SPIRITUAL STRENGTH AND BE WILLING TO SACRIFICE ANYTHING the Lord asks of me
- PASSOVER...FINAL Plague... Exodus 12
- Fully trust in the blood of Jesus
 - Work on obedience but trust the blood of Jesus
 - God didn't go into every household to see what kind of people were there...He just looked for the blood of the Lamb

Difficulty will cause you to desire to Sacrifice the Idols in your life so you can walk THROUGH it...

- Difficulty is meant to strengthen you for the next phase

PHASE 5 of God's Construction Plan: DEAD-END

- **Exodus 14:9** *The Egyptians—all Pharaoh's horses and chariots, horsemen and troops—pursued the Israelites and overtook them as they camped by the sea near Pi Hahiroth, opposite Baal Zephon.*
- **Exodus 14:13-15:** Fear Not, Stand Firm, Go Forward
 - *Moses answered the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. 14The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still." 15Then the Lord said to Moses, "**Why are you crying out to me?** Tell the Israelites to move on.*
- TRUTH > FEAR (false beliefs)
 - *"Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God." **Psalm 20:7***

Delay — Difficulty — Dead Ends

- Nicknamed the "Hell in the Hallway"
- It is in the "IN BETWEEN" place where you cannot go back where you were because a threshold has been crossed, and you have yet to arrive where you are going because it is not yet available to you
- It is literally the HALLWAY between past and future

What do I do in the hallway?

- *"The Lord will fight for you, you only have to be silent." **Exodus 14:14***

When the **Delays – Difficulties – Dead Ends** have developed us to the point God desires us to be...Until we are there...

- He will continue to **DETOUR** us....But when ready....**He will Phase 6 Us!**

PHASE 6 of God's Construction Plan: DELIVER

- **Exodus 14:26-31 (NIV)**...*Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea so that the waters may flow back over the Egyptians and their chariots and horsemen." 27Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at daybreak the sea went back to its place. The Egyptians were fleeing toward it, and the Lord swept them into the sea. 28The water flowed back and covered the chariots and horsemen—the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed the Israelites into the sea. Not one of them survived.*

29But the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left. 30That day the Lord saved Israel from the hands of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the shore. 31And when the Israelites saw the mighty hand of the Lord displayed against the Egyptians, the people feared the Lord and put their trust in him and in Moses his servant.

- **Exodus 15:1 (NIV)**...Triumphed Victoriously: *Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the Lord: "I will sing to the Lord, for he is highly exalted. Both horse and driver he has hurled into the sea.*

I wish that were the End. God just refines us one time to our perfect completion and then it's easy rolling from here on out! My character development is now complete!! (LOL)

But Wait...THERE's MORE....

- 12-day walk to the Promised Land
- The DREAM is now to get to the Promised Land
- DELAY: NO Water
- 40 YEARS delay/difficulty/dead end
 - It took God 1 day to get Israel out of Egypt
 - It took 40 years to get Egypt out of Israel
- FINALLY GET TO JERICHO and conquer and settle in the Land
- **NOW THERE WERE GIANTS**

WHY DOES GOD DO THIS?

“So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.” **1 Peter 1:6-7 (NLT)**

TAKE HOME

- 1. What am I afraid of?**
- 2. What is God trying to teach me through this?**
- 3. What does love require of me?**

FINAL

You are, at this very moment, in the biggest war you will ever wage in your life. You are fighting for what you'll one day become. There are forces clashing for influence in your heart, soul, mind, and strength that you might not recognize until you are able to look back on, a year from now, and see what you've become.