

TIPPING POINT: YOUR CHOICES MATTER

Pastor Jim Laffoon

WARM UP QUESTION: Have there been any choices that you've made that changed your life, a challenging situation or an outcome?

READ: *Galatians 4:4 (ESV)*

FOCUS: We are at a tipping point as a nation and as a church and our choices matter.

OBSERVE:

- **Gal 4:4: The ultimate tipping point in history was Jesus.**
 - Just as God the Father sent His Son, Jesus, as the tipping point, Jesus sends us to bring tipping points to others.
- **Genesis 15:16: God judges nations at their tipping point.**
 - As a nation, we are at a tipping point. There is more sin in this nation than righteousness. We, as a church, are called to cry out so that God's hands would bring a revival.
- **We are to respond to our nation's tipping point with two choices.**
 - Choice 1: Identify (Galatians 3:28). We must ultimately identify with our second birth, not our being reduced to identify with our first birth. The most deadly identity theft is the theft of our divine identity. Our primary identity from which we live our lives is as a Christian.
 - Choice 2: Intercede (Ez 22:30). There is something more powerful than politicking- it's interceding for our nation.
- **As a church, we are at a tipping point. God is about to visit us in a unique way that will result in prolonged, sustained growth. We are to respond to our church's tipping point with three choices.**

- Choice 1: Work (1 Sam 17:17-23). Don't underestimate the power of serving. David served his way until the tipping point of Goliath. Serving not only positions the church, it positions us.
- Choice 2: Witness (2 Kings 5). The slave of the most feared man who led the massacre of her people chose to be a witness to him. Desire to obey God.
- Choice 3: Worship (Luke 1:8-11) There is something to be said of obeying with no feelings. We are to be faithful to worship, serve and believe.

REFLECT:

- What are some examples of identifying with our first birth rather than our second birth? In what are we tempted to identify with?
- Which of the three responses (Work, Witness, Worship) to the tipping point of our church stands out to you the most and why?

TAKE ACTION:

- Consider your thoughts, talk and treatment of others.
- How can you adjust your actions and attitudes in those areas to be more in line with God's will for us?

PRAY:

Father, thank You that You have placed me in this nation and this church at this time for a specific purpose. Help our nation tip toward You. Give our leaders direction and faith to honor You in their decisions and actions. And for each of us, focus us more specifically on the purpose that we have been given, and help us to use our gifts to execute that purpose so that others would follow Christ in the coming days. Amen.

