History in the Making#14 in a Series on Victorious Living, Joshua 23-24 & Judges 2:6-11 Pastor Chico Goff

Importance of Learning from History

"On that day Joshua made a covenant for the people, and there at Shechem he drew up for them decrees and laws. And <u>Joshua recorded these things in the Book of the Law of God</u>. Then he took a large stone and set it up there under the oak near the holy place of the Lord. 'See!' he said to all the people. '<u>This stone will be a witness</u> against us. It has heard all the words the Lord has said to us. It will be a witness against you if you are untrue to your God.'"

Joshua 24:25-27

Four Commitments to Transform History

1. Trust in God and not in our own abilities.

"You have seen everything that the Lord your God has done to all these nations because of you. The Lord your God has been fighting for you." (23:3, TEV)

Q: Why did God's people see so many of promises fulfilled?

A: They trusted in <u>God</u> and <u>His Word</u>. (Josh 1:8-9; 5:13-15)

2. Obey God because you <u>love</u>.

"Be very firm, then, to keep and do all that is written in the book of the law of Moses, so that you may not turn aside from it to the right hand or to the left." (Joshua 23:6, NASB)

"But <u>you are to cling</u> to the Lord your God, as you have done to this day." (Joshua 23:8, NASB)

"So be very careful to love the Lord your God." (Joshua 23:11, NIV)

3. Make it a goal to serve God wholeheartedly.

"So <u>honor the Lord</u> and serve him wholeheartedly. Put away forever the idols your ancestors worshiped when they lived beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt. <u>Serve the Lord alone</u>." (Joshua 24:14, NLT)

"'All right then,' Joshua said, 'destroy the idols among you, and <u>turn your hearts to the Lord</u>, the God of Israel.' The people said to Joshua, 'We will serve the Lord our God. We will obey him alone.'" (Joshua 24:23-24, NLT)

Serving God wholeheartedly includes...

- ...living by faith and not by sight or ability.
- ...doing what it takes to <u>remember and renew</u> our commitment to our Creator.
- 4. Commit to honoring the past while building towards a God honoring future.

(Judges 2:6-11)

Our spiritual heritage

must be intentionally passed on

to our children and the next generation leader if we are to continue to help transform our families and this valley.