

Defining Moments

Pastor Bryan Keith Dugger - 09/11/2016



Personal Reflection

Set aside fifteen minutes this week to pray & respond to the following:

In one sense, life can be viewed as a series of mundane moments punctuated by (often) unexpected, deeply impacting personal events. These defining moments oftentimes bring one to a fork in the road in which decisions requiring courage, conviction & faith must be quickly made. It is critical that you are as spiritually, mentally & emotionally prepared for these times as possible because the repercussions can span the course of one's lifetime & affect many people.

Followers of Jesus Christ are blessed with access to the promises in God's Word & the peace of Christ which comes by way of His indwelling Spirit. However, whether or not one benefits from these two priceless resources is a matter of choice & preparation.

What past events have impacted the way you live in the present & shape the way you regard the future? How prepared are you for the unexpected emergence of a potentially life-changing, life-defining moment? Though you cannot control what happens to or around you, how you respond to circumstances & individuals is in your power.

Prayerfully reflect upon God's past protection & guidance in your life. Ask Him to reveal how He was watching over you even when you didn't realize it at the time. Express gratitude that even though you may be surprised by emergencies in the present, He is never caught unaware. Consider the depth of the fact that nothing happens without God's cause or consent—He is totally in control. Praise God that when the mundane moments are punctuated by impacting personal events, He is right there—ready & willing to guide you by His power & shelter you in His limitless grace.

I. Responding To Crises

II. Esther's Defining Moment

Esther 4:13-17

v. 13-14

Threat & Opportunity

v. 15-17

Faith & Courage

III. Expecting The Unexpected
