

Mount Pisgah Baptist Church
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MOMENTS FROM THE MOUNT

“Consist and Resist”

QUESTION: Why do you think, that at times, we “*run out of gas*” on this Christian journey? For the same reason that we *run out of gas* on the freeway; and have to pull off to the side of the road.

“WE FAIL TO PUT GAS IN OUR TANKS”

1). **Ephesians 5:18-** And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be **filled** with the Spirit;

QUESTION: Is your spiritual tank empty?

NOTE THE VISUAL: Pretend that this visual is your heart; your *gas tank of life*. Your tank can be full, down a quart, half full, you may only have a quarter of a tank left, or you may be running on fumes.

Have you ever been too tired to pray? Too tired to read your bible? Or felt too tired to go to church?

PRACTICAL POINT: When you’re running on “*spiritual fumes*”, your life will begin to “*sputter*”.

You must monitor your spiritual gas tank. if not, you will look at your *dash board of life*, and have less than an eighth of a tank left. And when that happens, you can only go so far.

- Running low on spiritual fumes is very dangerous, especially when you are in a “up-hill” battle/season.

How can you tell when your spiritual gas tank is getting low?

- 1). You begin to worry a whole lot more (than you may normally do).
- 2). You begin to complain more, and easily find fault in other people. You look for someone to blame.
- 3). You find it very hard to get a good night's sleep. It's hard for you to rest at night.
- 4). You become more and more fearful (about your **job**, your **future**, your **children/grandchildren**, your **health**, etc...).
- 5). Hopelessness, sadness, and depression begins to set in.

I. The Road to Discovery

There is a clear roadway/pathway to help you to determine if you're in need of a spiritual fill-up, and need to make some changes.

A. You will begin to **"hear"** a small whispering voice.

1). **I Kings 19:11-13a-** ¹¹ And he said, Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the LORD. And, behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong **wind** rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the LORD; but the LORD was not in the wind: and after the wind an **earthquake**; but the LORD was not in the earthquake: ¹² And after the earthquake a **fire**; but the LORD was not in the fire: and after the fire **a still small voice**. ¹³ And it was so, when Elijah **heard** it...

PROBLEM: Since the Holy Spirit normally speaks in a still small voice, His nudging's can easily be ignored. But, if you should ignore His voice, He will have no choice but to turn up the volume.

B. You will begin to **"feel"** a disconnect. You know that *something* is wrong.

C. You will begin to **"see"** the results.

When you begin to "see" the results, it is time to **"do"** something.

There are *times* when God is not expecting you to pray. He is expecting for you to **"do"** something.

1). **Isaiah 1:15 (NIV)**- When you spread out your hands in *prayer*, I **hide** my eyes from you; even when you offer *many prayers*, I am **not** listening.

2). **Isaiah 1:15a (Holman CSB)**- When you lift up your hands in *prayer*, I will **refuse** to look at you; even if you offer *countless prayers*, I will **not** listen.

3). **Jeremiah 11:14 (CEV)**- Jeremiah, **don't** pray for these people or beg me to *rescue* them. If you do, I **won't** listen, and I certainly **won't** listen if they *pray*!

4). **Jeremiah 11:14 (NKJV)**- So do **not** *pray* for this people, or lift up a cry or *prayer* for them; for I will **not** hear *them* in the time that they cry out to Me because of their trouble.

5). **Jeremiah 11:14 (ESV)**- "Therefore do **not** *pray* for this people, or lift up a cry or *prayer* on their behalf, for I will **not** listen when they call to me in the time of their trouble.

II. The Road to Recovery

You must keep your spiritual tank full.

YOUR HEART IS YOUR SPIRITUAL GAS TANK

1). **Proverbs 4:23**- Keep thy **heart** with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

Whatever you put "in" your heart; it will come "out". If *nothing* goes in, *nothing* will come out.

QUESTION: Exactly *what* should you put into your spiritual gas tank?

"High-octane" WORD!!! Another name for high-octane WORD is **FAITH**.

And where can we get/obtain some faith?

MOMENTS FROM THE MOUNT – "Consist and Resist"

1). **Romans 10:17**- So then **faith** cometh by **hearing**, and hearing by the **word** of God.

The more “**word**” that you put inside of you, the further that you will be able to go.

1). **I Peter 2:2**- As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the **word**, that ye may **grow** thereby:

2). **I Corinthians 15:15**- Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye **stedfast, unmoveable, always** abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

3). **James 4:7**- Submit yourselves therefore to God. **Resist** the devil, and he **will** flee from you.

4). **I Peter 5:9**- Whom *resist* **stedfast** in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

KEEP YOUR TANK FULL

KEEP A FULL TANK WITH HIGH OCTANE WORD

