



# Special 50th Birthday Message

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Valley Church

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What I Wish I Knew (When I Was 22)

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## Introduction:

### What I Wish I Knew (When I Was 22...)

1. \_\_\_\_\_, your \_\_\_\_\_ is not rooted in what you do for me, but what I've done for you.

Hebrews 13:5

*"...Never will I leave you; Never will I forsake you."*

2. \_\_\_\_\_, your \_\_\_\_\_ is not defined by your goodness, but by my grace.

3. \_\_\_\_\_, your \_\_\_\_\_ is not based on your faith, but on my faithfulness.

2 Timothy 2:13

*"...even if we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot disown Himself."*

### The Big Idea:

1 Corinthians 1:26-29

## QUESTIONS FOR LIFE GROUPS AND PERSONAL REFLECTION

### Personal Life:

1. As Pastor Jeremy shared three major reflections about his first 50 years of life, did it cause you to reflect on your own spiritual journey so far? If so, what is one major thing God has etched into your own life that you've been able to encourage or share with others? Discuss...
2. Pastor Jeremy shared about the vital impact that his youth pastor Dan had in his redemption story as he struggled with anger, suicidal thoughts and brokenness during his teenage and young adult years. Who in your life has God used to minister to you in your growth process? Share some of those details with the group...

### Ponderings:

3. In Hebrews 13:5 we read of God's promise never to leave us or forsake us as His children. Why is it so critically important for us to live every day with the assurance of our salvation based on the promise of God alone? Discuss...
4. In Luke 7, Jesus tells a story about how a person who understands the depth of God's forgiveness begins to love others more deeply. In what way(s) has this been true in your own life? Try to be as specific as possible...
5. In 2 Timothy 2:13, Paul tells this young church leader, "...even if we are faithless, (God) remains faithful, for He cannot disown Himself." Why is the unconditionality of God's New Covenant with us so powerful? How often do you meditate upon God's faithfulness to you? Discuss...

### Promptings:

6. As God's children, we've been redeemed and continue to live in the midst of an ongoing story of redemption. Is there an issue, struggle or relationship in your life that you're trusting God to redeem or restore? If you haven't done so already, would you commit to inviting someone you feel safe with to participate in that redemption story with you through prayer, counsel and transparency? Discuss...