

Prepare the Way of the Lord

Senior Pastor Bob Johnson
Great Falls Christian Center

April 11, 2010
Just Walk Across the Room

Isaiah 40:1-5

Isaiah 40:3-4 Thunder in the desert! "Prepare for God's arrival! Make the road straight and smooth, a highway fit for our God. **Fill in the valleys, level off the hills, Smooth out the ruts, clear out the rocks.**

Beginning evangelism campaign "**Just a Walk Across the Room**"

Building a Highway for God

Isaiah 40:3-4 Thunder in the desert! "Prepare for God's arrival! Make the road straight and smooth, a highway fit for our God. **Fill in the valleys, level off the hills, Smooth out the ruts, clear out the rocks.** Then God's bright glory will shine and **everyone will see it.**

1. Fill in the valleys ... **God can do more with you than you can imagine**

Romans 12:2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but **be transformed by the renewing of your mind.**

Ephesians 3:20 God can do anything, you know—**far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams!** He does it not by pushing us around but **by working within us, his Spirit deeply and gently within us. Msg**

Ephes. 2:10 For **I am** God's masterpiece. He has created **me** anew in Christ Jesus, so that **I** can do the good things he planned for **me** long ago.

2. Level the hills ... **we need to give him a fresh canvas**

James 4:6 ..."God **opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.**"

Isaiah 55:8-9 "My thoughts are **completely different from yours,**" says the Lord. "And **my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine.** For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts. NLT

This campaign is ultimately about God changing us

- The way I think- my preconceptions and my understanding
- The way I act
- The way I see others- especially "**the sought**"
- The way I spend my resources- time, energy, money... priorities

Luke 1:38 "**I am the Lord's servant,**" Mary answered. "**May it be to me as you have said.**"

3. Smooth out the ruts ... *The crooked places shall be made straight*

Focus

James 1:8 ...a double-minded man, unstable in all he does.

Philippians 3:15 So let's keep ***focused on that goal***, those of us who want everything God has for us. If any of you have something else in mind, something less than total commitment, ***God will clear your blurred vision—you'll see it yet!*** Msg

Matthew 6:33 ... he will give you all you need from day to day if you ***live for him and make the Kingdom of God your primary concern.*** NLT

Ephesians 2:10 ...He creates each of us by Christ Jesus ***to join him in the work he does, the good work he has gotten ready for us to do, work we had better be doing.*** Msg

4. Clear out the rocks ... *Repentance*

Hebrews 12:1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, ***let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily hinders our progress.*** And let us run with endurance the race that God has set before us. NLT

Acts 3:19 ***Repent*** therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so ***that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord,*** NKJ

Psalms 139:23-24 ***Search me, O God, and know my heart,*** test me and know my thoughts. ***Point out anything in me that offends you,*** and lead me along the path of everlasting life. NLT

5. The glory of the Lord will be revealed ... *Expectation*

Ephesians 3:20 Now to him who is ***able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine,*** according to his power that is at work within us,

Your Part

- Pray

John 15:5 ***"I am the vine; you are the branches.*** If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; ***apart from me you can do nothing.***

- Participate fully in a focus group... including ***individual strides.***
- Listen to each week's message.
- Look, listen and obey the leading of the Holy Spirit.
- Encourage and pray for one another.