When The Newness Wears Off

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INTRODUCTION

- The excitement, the rush, the zing, the enthusiasm over something fresh, new, and beautiful. Eventually, some of that excitement dwindles.
- There exists a vacuum in your soul that only God can fill.

1 Not About the Seen, but the Unseen

Ecclesiastes 2:18; Psalm 39:4–6; 2 Corinthians 4:18

- Thus I hated all the fruit of my labor, for which I had labored under the sun. For I must leave it to the man who will come after me.
- Surely every man at his best is a mere breath. Surely every man walks about as a phantom. Surely they make an uproar for nothing. He amasses riches and does not know who will gather them.
- Do not look to the things which are seen, but to the things which are unseen. The things that are unseen are eternal.
- It is David's purpose to expose the fatal insufficiency of all that is earthbound.

2 Marriage: Not About a Feeling, but a Family

Psalm 127:1

- When you realize that marriage is not so much about a feeling as it is a family.
- Paul would go on to say in chapter 14 and verse 1 that love has to be pursued. Pursue love.
- Marriage is more than a honeymoon. It is the building of a home. Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it.
- The relationship has to be nurtured. Selflessness has to be pursued.

3 Not About a Building, but a Body

- Over time you start taking the building for granted.
- It's not about a building, it's about a body. It's not about brick and mortar, it never has been.
- It's not about metal, it's about a mission that God has given us. It's not about a place, it's about people.

4 More About the Message Than the Man

- You have to discover that it's more about the message than the man.
- If people had problems with the Apostle Paul, then you're gonna have problems with me.
- We have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the surpassing greatness of the power may be of God and not of us.

5 Not About the Dash, but the Distance

Luke 8:13–14

- They receive the word with joy, and they have no firm root. They believe for a while, and in time of temptation, they fall away.
- Oh, you mean this isn't the hundred-yard dash? No, it more resembles a marathon.
- Just like there's some spiritual training involved in making it the distance.
- Sin is promising. It has always promised what it cannot deliver, but the appeals are always there.
- When we stop growing, we start getting entangled by the deceitfulness of sin, and we get more and more entangled by the world and its charms.

6 Not About the Here, but Heaven and How We Hear

Proverbs 27:24

- For riches are not forever, nor does a crown endure to all generations.
- The fatal insufficiency of all that is earthbound. And the glowing full sufficiency of all that is in the presence of God.
- It's more than just coming in and sitting on a pew and saying, I'm here. It's about taking the message.
- It is taking the message and living it in our lives.

THE CHALLENGE

So I will keep thy law continually forever and ever. And may that be the sentiment of your heart.

MY NOTES