



MOMENTUM BUILDER

Keith Minier

“What are you going to fill your mark with?”

Pastor Keith Minier challenges us to fill our mark—the span of life between our birth and our death—with our Maker, resolving to follow Him rather than the things of this earth. Your mark will be filled with your Maker when you serve others, obey God, and tell others about Him!

MESSAGE OPENER:

We've all ordered food from a restaurant before and we all have expectations for how it should be presented. If you get take out, your hamburger should be wrapped, your french fries in a box, your drink will come in a cup, you'll likely get your ice cream in a cone, and your pizza should come in a box.

Have you ever considered your food with out these simple but overlooked containers? Imagine you order french fries and the fast-food employees just give you a handful of them. Consider your reaction when your hamburger is placed on the counter, cheese and ketchup spilling out, with nothing to protect it from the burger particles that came before it. If you order a pizza, you expect a box. You are purchasing a pizza, not a cardboard box, but yet, you expect it to be part of the deal.

Boxes, cups, and various containers aren't worth much, if anything. They only have value because of what's inside. They are given great worth by the things they contain. But what is it about a simple box that makes it useful for the purpose that it was intended? Only a box that is empty and available can be used to fulfill its purpose.

2 Corinthians 4:5–7

For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ. But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.

If you want your mark to count, it must be filled with its Maker.

READ: Daniel 1

WATCH: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5UQbVY4e2Qw>

KEY POINTS:

How do you fill your mark with your Maker?

You enjoy your Creator through loving other people. You care. You serve. You make a difference in their lives. You do whatever you can to encourage other people and make an eternal impact in their lives.

You honor His word with your character. You're obedient and you listen to what God says, putting into practice the things you know to be true.

You enjoy your Creator by connecting other people to Him. When you love someone and follow them, you tell everyone about them. A relationship with your Maker is not meant to be kept to yourself, it's meant to be shared.

CLOSING CHALLENGES:

Often we resolve to follow Jesus without actually having a plan on how to follow Him. If you are going to fill your mark with your Maker...

Your big yes must be followed by a lifetime of yeses. Daniel's big yes was to honor God, making his little yes to not defile himself with the king's food a no brainer. Followers of Jesus don't make one decision, they are disciples who make a lifetime of decisions over and over again. The number one way to avoid compromise is to pre-decide what you will choose before you are ever placed in a compromising situation.

You need to remember that you have no one to impress and only One to honor. The fastest way to forget how crazy God is about you is to begin caring what everyone else thinks about you. You must care more about what God thinks than everybody else.

You have to become gracious and kind with those who don't believe like you. To be bold for Jesus—like Daniel was—is not permission to be rude to people. He reacted to his enemies with wisdom and maturity.