

Day 43

- Good Morning! I hope your weekends were wonderful, full of God's love and blessing and that you were able to be a blessing too.
- Day 42 found us in some good truths and maybe even brought us to a place of reality that we don't always want to face.
- Some of you may be wondering what happened to our time with King David. Well, here is the truth. "A man's heart plans his ways, but the LORD directs his steps." Proverbs 16:9. In other words, Holy Spirit has chosen to direct our steps in a bit of a different way than what I thought. King David and all those amazing life lessons and words of God through him are out there, and they will come into play when God deems them the right time. I am taking God's lead and looking into the exciting daily adventure He wants us to explore with Him.
- Yesterday, I was greatly impacted by a special speaker at church, and my heart welled up with the heart of the LORD through this woman's work. In seeing and hearing how many lives she was touching each day, I could have taken my life and compared it to hers and said something negative about myself. But that would have been exactly what the enemy of our souls, satan, would want me to do.
- He didn't grab ahold of me and take me down one of his wicked rabbit trails as he so wanted to do. Why? Well, because that's who he is — always wanting to take us off course; always wanting to remind us of our past or what we aren't doing compared to someone else. But I have been learning, as I have been teaching all of you, that I take every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ. (2 Corinthians 10:5). That when I submit to God and resist the devil, he has to flee. And even more amazing, when I draw near to God, he draws near to me — always. (James 4:7-8).
- So, when the LORD moved my heart with compassion for the work of this woman's hands, I knew I could do my part for that ministry right now, and I became a financial and prayer partner with them. And I asked the LORD to bless my finances, so I could turn around and be a bigger blessing to that ministry and those lives being touched.
- We are all not called to the same exact places of ministry with our hands and our time, but we can always sow seeds of giving into those ministries. How do we not know that our hearts were moved to be a financial and prayerful supporter in the first place? We don't unless we ask God for His direction.
- Now, this ministry of saving the "forgotten" or the ones people tend to throw away, well that is my heart and passion. The champion inside of me rises up every time I see or hear of someone who needs desperate rescue but people walk right by or ridicule as they do. In those moments, I would lay everything down and run right into that ministry and help with my hands and with my time.
- But, I have also learned that it is very important to stay focused on what my calling and destiny is and to stay the course in that direction of what God has set before me personally. Maybe I am unable in this moment to give my time and physical being into being a blessing to these women who so desperately need all that God has for them, but I can give gifts of blessing monthly, so this ministry can continue to reach out to more women in need. And just maybe, down the road, the LORD will bless me with the opportunity to be more hands on. For now, I will be faithful in the little things.
- Which leads us to our amazing scripture for today.

- "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. BUT he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does." James 1:22-25.
 - Okay, I just noticed something I didn't see before; I love when Holy Spirit does that! Liberty, which is freedom, is a law! Did you see it? "But he who looks into

the perfect LAW of liberty and continues in it.” I am definitely going to be doing a personal deep dive into that one!

- If we look into the perfect law of liberty and continue in it and do not be forgetful hearers of the word, but are doers of the work involved after hearing the word, we will be blessed in what we do. It is a promise. I love laws with promises! Well, all of God’s laws have promises. They are absolutes.
- So, maybe some of you are asking, “Heidi, can you explain that scripture a little bit more for me? My answer, absolutely!
 - Have you ever heard someone share about a ministry they are involved in and immediately you are full of compassion to help in it, or maybe you see a person in true need along your path, Holy Spirit wells up in you, and you are filled with compassion, maybe unto tears? But thinking you can’t do anything in either case, you wipe your eyes and move on, and soon those who are in great need have been forgotten by you. That is what it means to “observe his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was.”
 - As believers in Jesus, we, our own wants and desires, have been crucified with Christ; we no longer live, but Christ lives in us, and the life we now live in the flesh, we live by faith in the Son of God, who loves us and gave Himself for us. (Galatians 2:20). So, when we are moved with compassion for a person, a situation, or a ministry, it is Christ welling up inside of us, and He does expect us to be His hands and His feet here to accomplish what needs to be done.
 - Now, I have a ministry, and it has been a part of my life for most of my life — and certainly a part of my life since I have been driving. Often, when I am heading somewhere, I see someone along my way; I am instantly moved with compassion, and I begin to pray for that person; I pray for them to hear the Father calling them to Him; I pray for them to call on the name of our Lord Jesus, so they can be saved, and often as I am praying, Holy Spirit will show me real needs in that person’s life, and I will intercede for that person before the LORD. Now, I don’t know these people, but the moment I see them, compassion wells up in me, and I KNOW God has brought me upon their path for a very specific reason.
 - Maybe I have had the privilege of being the one you have prayed for who would come into your son or daughter or friend’s life to minister to them. And when I say privilege; it is a great privilege to know that God trusts me to respond to the compassion He wells up inside of me, and He knows I will pray.
 - Sometimes He asks me to do more than pray in my car or as I walk down the side walk. Sometimes He asks me to go to them and pray with them or ask them certain questions or offer any help I can. Sometimes He tells me to give them something from Him. Whatever it is, I try to respond in the way He wants me to.
 - Have I done it perfectly every time? No, sadly, but His grace is sufficient for me and for them, and His mercies are new every morning. When I realize I missed my opportunity to be a blessing and to be blessed, I ask Him to send someone else along that person’s path, to do what I didn’t. And even if I forget or choose not to pray that way, God will send someone along their path anyway — because He is faithful, even when we are not.
 - God will always still accomplish His plan for that person, I just missed the blessing that comes from being obedient to the perfect law of liberty — for God’s heart is that all should be set free from sin and death and all forms of bondage.
 - How do we know this? Oh, it is found ALL through the Bible — but one of the places completely near and dear to my heart is Isaiah 58:6-14.

- God gave me a passion for this scripture many years ago; I knew it was a call to action, and so, in my flesh, I went forward, trying to launch it with people I thought God was calling to it. It made sense to my human brain. But “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.” Isaiah 55:9.
 - Over the years the enemy of our soul, satan, has tried to heap guilt on me for not following through with my Isaiah 58 call — and, not to give him any props, it worked for periods of time. BUT GOD! Nothing God gives us to accomplish is dead unless we are dead. And even then, it’s not dead because He will give it to somebody else. If we are still breathing, all of those things He has given to us is there for us to jump into and fulfill.
 - And just so you know, He has given me A LOT of stuff to do, and I have only fulfilled a sliver of it. So, I have called forth my 120 years from my future, and I am standing on that scripture in Genesis 6:3, and since I realize that I may have not received full revelation knowledge regarding the meaning of that exact scripture, I also say, “LORD, if I can have more years than 120, I will take them.” I am also standing on the fact that Moses when out completely healthy and strong, and I claim that for my life as well. Now, I have to do my part. I can’t eat crap and do things that are hard on the human body and expect the LORD to give me long life. Remember, this is a covenant relationship; something is required on both sides. It isn’t welfare. If we put nothing in, we get nothing.
- We have to ask God what sacrifice He wants us to make — we can sacrifice and we can fast, but if He is asking for something different, then it is only religion — and it will yield very little if anything at all. We also must remember that a sacrifice isn’t something we don’t want to give up as laying it on the altar with regret and feeling we are being forced to do it. A sacrifice must be given up willingly and with joy — for Jesus is our perfect Lamb sacrifice. He gave Himself for us willingly and with great love for us. We were at the center of what He did. The Father moved Him with compassion for us, and He willingly obeyed that call, so no one ever again has to give their life for another.
 - Tomorrow, we will get into Isaiah 58 and see what Holy Spirit has to say. Until then, I bless you in the LORD, asking Him to give you a heart full of His compassion and love for those in great need. And I leave you with a verse for thought to encourage you in stepping forward in what He has planted in your life already.
- “Is this not the fast that I have chosen: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, to let the oppressed go free, and that you break every yoke?” Isaiah 58:6.