



# **Lights and Perfection, Inc.**

**Go and make disciples!**

E-votional 120

## **Act and Obey**

Hebrews 11:7 (NKJV),

*By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.*

I just picked this one verse as an example of faith. However, the Bible is filled with powerful examples. In fact, the entirety of the chapter where this verse is located is filled with examples as well. The reason for this example of faith is that the Lord has been reminding me, because sometimes in my human weakness I can forget, that faith is something so much more than some abstract feeling or inward belief. Actually, it transcends all of that and is followed through with action and obedience. Action and obedience are the primary reminders here.

Along with this are the extraordinary ways God calls us from one act of obedience to another. Now, when I say extraordinary let me place a firm disclaimer here first. When I say extraordinary, I do not mean some huge grandiose idea or revelation that becomes some large and successful thing (although that does happen), rather, I am referring to the ability, much like in Noah's case to simply do as God instructed him, whether results be big or small. Now, Noah had a big part in a grandiose plan. But the simplicity that I would like to highlight was that of his faith to act and obey at the prompting of the Lord. The amazing thing was that the Lord warned Noah of a massive flood and called him to build an ark for the saving of his household.

Let's illustrate this for a second. Here is Noah, a random guy whom God chooses to do something extraordinary. God instructs Noah to do something in preparation for another something that has never even happened before ever. Think about that for a moment and let that sink in. What I am illustrating here is that Noah heard from God about something that never took place before ever and he acted and obeyed because he simply believed God.

Brothers and sisters, I wonder what the church would look like or just the lives of individual believers if we more often took this same approach.

Honestly, I am thankful for this reminder because I truly believe that because of the weakness of our flesh and human fallacies that we often get caught in ruts where we begin to trust our present circumstances or roles rather than on what God is trying to do. This not only happens in our individual walks with Christ but also corporately as a church as well.

Let me explain by illustrating a brand new church plant (no one in particular) that clearly heard from God to move into this new venture. Here they are a new and blossoming church on fire for the Lord. Then after only a few years, through rote exercise, the fire grows dim and the passion is all but lost. Then God speaks to this church to move them out of their rut by appealing to them to have faith in a new thing He is calling them to do. Here two responses could happen. The first response is that this church would hear and be challenged by what they heard, but muster up enough faith to act and obey and then move to a place of refreshment in the Lord where they continue growing and thriving in new ways. The second response would be that this church hears and rejects what they heard because it does not line up with their thoughts, theology, and plans and therefore will continue to grow dim and stop growing. This second place is a scary place to be yet happens all the time.

I wonder also if this could be true of you or me at any given time in our walks with Christ. Let the hearer discern through the Holy Spirit and then act and obey.

Again as a disclaimer, you or I may never be called to something the size of what Noah was called to. But the truth is that God is still in the calling business and calls upon churches and individuals to mend their ways and turn to Him in obedience and action with all of their hearts and lives. But, if you or I or our church as a whole get too comfortable in our ways of doing church or life, then when the time comes we may actually reject what God is calling us to do. My prayer is that this is never so with you brothers and sisters. And also pray that this could stir you up to love and good works no matter what it is the Lord Jesus Christ is calling you to do. The Lord bless and keep you and make His face to shine upon you, in Jesus name amen.

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In Christ's Love,  
Chris and Jeanne  
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