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Go and make disciples!

E-votional 19

Measure of Faith

1 Peter 4:10-11 (ESV),

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

I don't know about you, but I am especially fond of doing things God's way. As a matter of fact, this should really be the simplistic heartbeat of all who claim to be Christian. We are living in really perilous times this day and age. I believe in many ways that these are the times that the early church forewarned us of. It is described best in 2 Timothy 3:2 (ESV),

For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy,

The purpose of sharing this passage is really simple, in the last day's people will be more about themselves than about God. I am reminded of what Paul wrote in Romans 12:1-3. The first part was an exhortation to bring ourselves to God as living sacrifices. This, of course, means that we will no longer live for ourselves. And if we find in any way that we are still on the throne of our lives, we through the grace of Jesus Christ will press in prayer until we are dethroned.

After presenting our bodies as living sacrifices we learn the importance of thinking in a clear and sober way about who we are in Christ when Paul says this in Romans 12:3 (ESV),

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

The point of this is that we each individually have a unique calling on our life and also have been provided with the grace and empowerment to accomplish it through faith. The question is, are we seeking what this is or just living the Christian status quo?

The struggle that I have had in what God has called me to is that it just looks different than what I see everyone else doing. Time and time again, I have struggled to come to terms with this difference. I felt like there were times I was living contrary to God's will for my life because of how I saw everyone else doing the Christian life. However, this was not the case. In fact, when we read the Bible, it is literally filled with characters whom God called in amazing ways to do things that were different than what everyone else was doing.

I have to be honest, I almost feel like Christianity has become some cookie cutter religion where everyone is doing the same things. But when I read the Bible, I see a different story altogether. I wonder what the world we live in would look like if we each just lived by the measure of faith that God has assigned to us.

I think it is time that we each individually, in earnest prayer, seek the Lord Jesus Christ and begin to learn our exact purpose and calling in Him and draw from His grace for this service. Remember it really takes willingness as well as making oneself available to God. When this happens, we must be ready for whatever God is leading us into. He has great plans, some little and some small, but great nevertheless for each person. The question becomes, are we willing to make the necessary changes to do His will and not our own?

Lord Jesus, I am crying out to You for a great and mighty wave of Your Spirit that will draw Your people to their knees in earnest supplication to really get in line with Your will and the grace You have provided each one. We are living in the last days and it is easy to get distracted with much serving and miss the whole point of serving to the degree You called us. Help us, Lord, to clear out the clutter and reinvigorate us to put You and Your plans first, In Jesus name.

Holy Spirit You are welcome here!

In Christ's Love,
Chris and Jeanne
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