

God is doing so many great things!

Real men are stepping away from their gang affiliations and joining the Kingdom of God. Others are letting the Spirit of God stir them to a greater understanding of what God wants. Men are speaking of wanting to change. Are you? Have you been feeding the spirit man or the fleshly man?

Recently, I've been burdened for many men who have come to a facility that has a program that must be attended before they can make parole. It's designed to wear the psyche of men down and help them understand the error of their ways, which could be a good thing. Unfortunately, it's designed by men and so, as good as it is it has its flaws. Also to receive federal and state funding, there has to be a separation between God and state, so any semblance of Godly change is not recognized but seen as a crutch. Well if Jesus can and will be my crutch, I would gladly walk with Him as my Helper than anyone else.

The mind is the enemy's playground and battleground. He gets in there to try and manipulate our thinking to believe things that aren't true. You know if I listened to what every man said about me that was not true and took it to heart; I'd be pretty much worthless. If I continued to let man or the enemy or a program remind me of my past to the point that I couldn't let God be my future, what hope would there be? I've literally seen the countenance of men fall due to their surrounding, lies of the enemy or what someone might have said. God wants you to know you don't have to be a quitter.

You see, I've seen so many come and get involved in Bible studies, Discipleship classes, Kairos, Sunday services etc and then disappear when things get tough. You see them on the walkways and say "What's up?" "Where've you been?" And you get "Well, I'm not feeling that right now" or "My schedule is so busy" or "You don't know what I'm going through." No, but did Jesus forgo the cross because He wasn't "Feeling it"? Doesn't He always have time for you? If He's in charge of your life like you say, then He led you to what you're going through. Is He not your deliverer? I know He wants to be, but so many quit before they give God the chance He's looking for.

When you learn to love God, you learn to submit and be obedient. You don't put Him back upon the shelf and decide to bring Him down at a later date! That sounds like a lousy relationship to me. Letting the enemy mess with your mind radically affects your spirit. Put on the mind of Christ!

*Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. Col 3:2*

It's time to bring your behavior in line with your new identity as a follower of Christ.

C h r i s t ' s   H e a r t   I n   E v e r y   F e l o n

*Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming. In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Col. 3:5-10*

That's a mouthful of beautiful teaching right there. And what's so awesome is that it can be done! No matter what the enemy may try to label you, you are a new creation in Christ Jesus! Don't let a program, or an inmate, or the state, or parole, or anything destroy you. Don't "Fake it till you make it". Feed the inner man, your spirit, more and more and you'll be able to walk through any valley, even the shadow of death itself will dissipate from the light of the Lamb. And for the glory of God, don't lay it down. Don't quit!

*Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind (no matter what the enemy throws in your face everyday) and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.*

*Phil 3:13-14*

A Prayer:

Father, You've never left me. I don't want to ever leave You. Help me during the down times to know Your hand is there on my chest to comfort me and love me. I know how You cheer for me to make it one more day and that I find myself closer to You. You care about everything I encounter and desire for me to surrender my way to Yours. So I'm asking You now Lord, not my way any more, but Yours. I will press on towards the prize of knowing who You are and how big You are and how You will direct my path as I acknowledge You more and more. You have great things in store for me because You love me and I thank You and love You. Amen

Well, my brothers,

*Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Eph 5:15-16*

Be Blessed!

*Chief*

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