

EXPERIENCING the POWER of “ONE ACCORD”

“...they lifted up their voice to God with one accord...And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness. And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common. And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.” Acts 4:24, 31-33 (KJV)



This Week’s Thought – March 13, 2016

“The word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai: “Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me.” Jonah 1:1-2 (NIV)

I am sure it is no surprise for you to know and experience from time to time, that God may interrupt your plans according to His will. You were going in one direction, and He stopped you in your tracks and led you in an about-face. Don’t get me wrong, there are times when it does happen to you that it can be disconcerting and more than a little scary...but do not be surprised if God happens to desire and direct you down a different path or direction.

Your current path may be the opposite of what He intended. Maybe you got in a hurry and ran ahead without Him, or maybe you have been reluctant to move forward and missed Him. Either way, the Holy Spirit has now arrested your attention and is leading you into uncharted waters. Like Phillip, you are an agent of God (Acts 8:29). You may be uncomfortable with the assignment because of the novelty in its nuances. God is moving you out of your comfort zone and into His arena of obedience. If you disobey and stay put, you jeopardize proclaiming Jesus to the fullest.

The consequences of disobedience are not isolated to you alone. They ripple throughout your relationships. Don’t wait for people to be hurt before you say yes to heaven’s directive. God interrupts for a reason and for a season. The reason may be to protect you from a convergence of bad decision-making. You don’t know what’s around the corner in your life, but He does. He is watching out for you, so this severe turn in His will may be to protect you from a pattern of bad behavior, relationships or dealings.

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Do not allow pride to keep you from changing your mind. Promptings from the Holy Spirit make pride uncomfortable because it means giving up control and submitting in humility. If you continue to drive forward in pride, you are destined for unnecessary pain (Ecclesiastes 2:23). Take this interruption as a sign from God to slow down, reevaluate, recalibrate and reposition yourself.

Interruptions from the Lord are not to be ignored. He has something better if you are willing to be bold in your obedience. He will prepare you and provide for you as you move in this new direction. Some people will resist, but others will be relieved that you are leading them in a different direction. They felt a hesitation in their heart to move forward but didn’t want their disagreement to be perceived as disloyalty. So your honesty about the reality of the situation has given them permission to be open about their reservations.

This can happen at home or at work. You may have agreed as a team to spend money on a project or a person, but now the funds are not available and wisdom does not spend what it does not have. God, many times, interrupts your plans through a decrease in cash. His interruptions are intended to get you into environments where you can be blessed. So, see His interruptions as a step up, not a step down. Thank Him that He cared enough to stop you in your tracks and redirect you down a better path. Invite divine diversions. You are wise when you follow the Lord’s interruptions.

Words from the Master during your time of reflection this week: “You are on the right path. Listen more to Me and less to your doubts. I am leading you along the way I designed just for you. Therefore, it is a lonely way...humanly speaking, but I go before you as well as alongside you, so you are never alone. Do not expect anyone to fully understand My ways with you, any more than you can comprehend My dealings with others. I am revealing to you the path of Life, day by day and moment by moment. As I said to My disciple Peter, so I repeat to you: ‘Follow Me’” (Psalm 119:105; John 21:22)

“And then God answered: “Write this. Write what you see. Write it out in big block letters so that it can be read on the run. This vision-message is a witness pointing to what's coming. It aches for the coming—it can hardly wait! And it doesn't lie. If it seems slow in coming, wait. It's on its way. It will come right on time.” Habakkuk 2:2-3 (MSG)

Yours in Christ, Pastor King