

ALL IN TO BUILD FOR OUR FUTURE

“The God of heaven Himself will prosper us: therefore we His servants will arise and build...So we built...for the people had a mind to work. A good person leaves an inheritance for their children’s children...” **Nehemiah 2:20; 4:6; Proverbs 13:22**
(NKJV)



This Week’s Thought – May 7, 2017

“Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days.” John 11:5-6 (NIV)

God’s timing is not always our timing. We see the immediate, He sees the long term. We feel pain and desire relief, He sees our pain and offers comfort. We pray for God to do something, He wants us to do something. We want conflict resolved, He wants our resolve to be trust in Him. We want to be an overnight success, He wants our character to grow with our success. We want financial security, He wants us to be generous with what we have. We want meaningful relationships, He wants us to initiate friendships. We want health, He wants to glorify Himself.

God’s timing is all about what He wants for us, not what He wants from us. Jesus loved Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, but He delayed His blessing. He delayed the blessing of healing for the greater glory of bringing Lazarus back from the dead. What we may perceive as the Lord’s indifference, is in reality, His loving patience and grace to provide something better. So, we may be deeply wounded by a broken promise, but in retrospect we see God’s protection.

Jesus said, “This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God’s glory so that God’s Son may be glorified through it.” (John 11:4)

Though uncomfortable at times, it is for our benefit when we are humbled by our circumstances. Perhaps we rushed to make a decision only to discover we did not have all the facts. The consequences of our choices can make us better or make us bitter. Thus, we learn to thank the Lord in the middle of a thankless responsibility. We may feel taken advantage of, but we know our heavenly Father will take care of us. When we still praise and thank Him in the middle of difficult days, He can entrust us with more blessings. Gratitude to God grows our humility.

Therefore, be intentional in expressing your appreciation to your heavenly Father. Humble yourself in worship, praise, confession, and repentance. Tell him how grateful you are for Him. For God’s love, thank Him. For God’s grace, praise Him. For God’s healing, shout hallelujah. Acknowledge the Lord’s blessings and favor from a humble heart and He will raise you up to represent Him. Indeed God uses your gratitude to develop your heart of humility and grace. He is drawn to your contrite spirit. The Lord looks with favor on a faith full of gratitude and humility.

God’s timing is all about God’s glory. The Lord’s heart is for relationships to reflect His glory. Fearful impatience can push us to settle for less than the Lord’s best. As you are waiting on direction from the Lord, be with the Lord. If Jesus feels distant, ask Him to soothe your soul.

“Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who acts on behalf of those who wait for him.” (Isaiah 64:4)

Serenity Prayer: “God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; courage to change the things I can; and wisdom to know the difference. Living one day at a time; enjoying one moment at a time; accepting hardships as the pathway to peace; taking, as He did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it; trusting that He will make all things right if I surrender to His Will; that I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with Him forever in the next. Amen!”

“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