

**General Topics :: I need victory over "doing something"****I need victory over "doing something" - posted by daniel- (), on: 2005/10/25 15:32**

Hi,

i sometimes have the problem that i cannot enjoy the presence of god because i think that this is selfish and i have to go out and preach the gospel.

somehow i am much too fixed on preaching the gospel.

i cant enjoy a sunset with my best friends, i feel

always guilty when i take times for me and my lord or when i just sit and listen to nice music after a hard working day.

i always have this sense of "doing something" .

i cant give myself time for spiritual growth...

i placed it in the lords hands..

i know that this is wrong but the truth has to sink
from my understanding to my heart and that is the
problem!

please pray for me :)

thank you very much for reading and sorry for the many l's

i'm not that good in english!

god bless you

edit:

i'd like to add..that i often feel that i could do something better than what i am doing right now.

instead of asking you for help i could do this and withness to person x and person y..

you understand?

i am very fixed on the non christian and forgetting my brother who needs help

Re: I need victory over "doing something" - posted by RobertW (), on: 2005/10/25 16:33

Hi Daniel,

I believe we need to focus n our worship of God first and foremost and allow the ministry to flow from our relationship with God. We can burn ourselves completely out thinking we have to always be "doing something." I need to heed this message myself. Its OK to stop and smell the roses. We need to be refreshed in the Lord or we will become bitter and burnt out. Sometimes redeeming the time through ministry can be helpful in keeping us from temptations. But, we need to be balanced and understand what our priorities are. You simply cannot give out what you have not received. You can't pour from an empty vessel. Never have more machinery going in your life than you have oil for. Don't be afraid to say NO and don't allow the enemy to constantly be putting a trip on you that you need to be doing something 24/7. He don't care if you sit idle or run yourself off a cliff headlong as long as you are not balanced and refreshed in what God is calling you to do. Quantity is not always better than quality. God can do more with a man full of the Spirit in minutes than a person involved in a powerless activity for days.

Pray the Lord would bring you into balance while at the same time keeping you from the evil.

God Bless,

-Robert

Re: I need victory over "doing something", on: 2005/10/25 16:57

Daniel,

I will pray for you.

Quote:
-----You simply cannot give out what you have not received. You can't pour from an empty vessel. Never have more machinery going in your life than you have oil for.

Amen. Good advice. VERY good advice.

Re: I need victory over "doing something" - posted by DaleH, on: 2005/12/15 15:29

Daniel

Have you listened to Keith daniel's sermon "Abide in me"? I think that you would Appreciate it. we does a very good job of showing the inportence of not missing God for the work of God. :-)

dan

p.s I'll pray for you.

Re: Daniel, on: 2005/12/15 15:40

Hi Daniel,

I have this problem too sometimes.What I found out is that we can do alot more for God by praying and waiting on Him first.If our tank is empty we will burn out fast.When I pray first and wait on God I am able to witness to people effectively and God puts just the right people in my path at just the right time.

Re: I need victory over "doing something" - posted by philologos (), on: 2005/12/16 6:11

Love bade me welcome, yet my soul drew back,
 Guilty of dust and sin.
But quick-ey'd Love, observing me grow slack
 From my first entrance in,
Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning
 If I lack'd anything.

"A guest," I answer'd, "worthy to be here";
 Love said, "You shall be he."
"I, the unkind, the ungrateful? ah my dear,
 I cannot look on thee."
Love took my hand and smiling did reply,
 "Who made the eyes but I?"

"Truth, Lord, but I have marr'd them; let my shame
 Go where it doth deserve."
"And know you not," says Love, "who bore the blame?"
 "My dear, then I will serve."
"You must sit down," says Love, "and taste my meat."
 So I did sit and eat. George Herbert 1593-1633

Re: I need victory over "doing something", on: 2005/12/18 23:51

My friend your not alone, most of us fit into your schedule quite easily. Of course there is nothing new under the sun lets see what the LORD has to say about this problem.

Quote:
-----Luke 10:40 But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me.

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Luke 10:41 And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things:

Quote:

Luke 10:42 But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.

So one needs to ask the question, why am I running around "trying" to do the LORD's work, when He would rather me be in silence and listening to Him speak.

There is something about hearing Jesus.

Quote:
-----Matthew 17:5 While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; **hear ye him.**

God is in no hurry to get people saved, and at the same time, He knows who are His. We could travail with a hundred souls and not one of them are interested in God, but God can speak to you and tell you where to go and what street you need to stand and what corner and watch God perform miracles because you like Jesus was up all night praying and listening for instructions on what God would have you do.

John 14:10 Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.

There is a connection here between what the Father speaks and what He does. Our part is to listen.

A lot of this "running" around is traditional, it's expected of Pentecostals and Baptist circles to get out there and win the lost, and when you don't do your share you feel guilty. Oh there is a lot of Good, and it's acceptable, but it's NOT the perfect will of God.

He that hath ears to hear let him hear what the Spirit is saying.....

Karl

Re: - posted by jimp, on: 2005/12/19 2:42

hi y'all, when i was a new christian i witnessed every night in the french quarter in N.O. la. one night i took off to go to a special church service of mostly worship and praise to the Lord. i was so blessed by the service but had great guilt on me for spending this time without witnessing. i prayed and asked God to help me with this and if possible give me an opportunity to share the gospel with someone on the way home. i got on the streetcar and sat down by the window and at the next stop a man got on and came over and sat next to me. he then asked me if i could help him because he was at the end of the rope and had messed his life up totally with sin and was at a breaking point. that night i made a new friend and the angels rejoiced in heaven. i am 41 years older and these incidents still occur. bro. ravenhill told me that bro tozer would stop every afternoon and lay across a mat on the floor for at least an hour, worshiping God for Who He is. this is where bro tozer received all of his wisdom and knowledge. i now picture God wringing his hands over what i do or do not do and laugh out loud at myself. jimp

Re: I need victory over "doing something" - posted by sj, on: 2005/12/19 10:03

I went through this same thing and still do to a smaller degree, but my major breakthrough came when one night i was laying in bed thinking about all the disaster the devil was causing in some situations and everything in general and right before i fell asleep it just occurred to me to say out loud

"Ok Lord, I'm going to sleep now..it's your shift, hold down the fort, I'll be back in the morning"

I laughed out loud at myself because that's exactly how i was acting! But saying it out loud showed me how silly i looked and sounded from Heavens vantage point.

It was the beginning of major Freedom.

If i catch myself worrying on my bed at night that's what i say now.

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Now perhaps this will be helpful:

You don't have head knowledge that has to become heart knowledge, you have heart knowledge that you have to renew your mind too. There's a big difference. When you became born again all things became new. What things? Not your mind, your heart! Your desires are now the Lord's desires. So it's not your heart brother it's your head. Wash your Brains. ;) So here are some things that helped me wash my brains:

You have to CHOOSE to believe that God wants you first with Him and then for Him. "Mary Chose the better part" It's a choice.

"OK" you may ask "But WHY first with God then people, people need God but God doesn't need me"

That was my question so

My wife put it this way:

"If I gave you a glass of water but I was dehydrated, it would help you, and I would feel good that I was able to help you but it would do nothing for me personally I will still die of thirst. God flows through you that does not fill you, you need to let Him flow too you."

Lady wisdom strikes again.

If you believe that ministering in the Spirit fills the minister then just look at all the ministers that have fallen that walked in the Power of God. It doesn't. Only personal time with Jesus does that.

To expand a little more: an unhealthy worker is a dangerous worker. I once worked loading semi trucks with a guy who didn't drink enough water, (tough guys don't drink water after all, especially tough new guys that have something to prove) and you should have seen him by the end of the day, he was literally covered in bruises he was sick and he had to go to the hospital! Dehydration kills. If nothing else it makes you bruise VERY easy.

SO you are a liability to the Kingdom if you are not hydrated and healthy in your priorities but you are trying to work. You are guaranteed to get hurt easier and you may even do so much damage to yourself that you will have to be hospitalized. Now what's cheaper on the company, a glass of water or a hospital bill?

But it's easy to get the spiritual "tough guy" syndrome...

Also, think about this: If you are bringing people into the Kingdom, they will become JUST like you brother! What will your life teach them? Or as Richard Crisco always used to say "You teach what you know but you reproduce who you are" You can tell them Jesus is most important till you are blue in the face but they will know better by you putting other things before Time with Him that you don't mean it.

John Wesley (I believe it was him) once left the presence of a very famous person only after a few minutes of conversation saying "I have a very important appointment tomorrow morning at 5 o'clock and I can't be late" the man said "At 5 o'clock!? With whom?" Wesley said "With God."

So...

you ask yourself, do I want other people living like I do right now and feeling like I do right now? If not then you better decide that change is not an option because every copy will be just like the mold they are stamped from.

That's why it's more important to spend time with Jesus than minister.

Now when I saw this I realized that I HAD to spend time with Jesus just like I need food and water not because I always feel like eating or drinking but because if I don't I WILL DIE. Yes the "food" is first class and the water is full of life, but hey that's not MY fault, Jesus decided He wants to give me the best...who am I to argue? To argue would be Pride. You ask Jesus to die on the Cross for you He chose it. You didn't even choose Him He chose you. You accepted the offer.

Now if you will accept having your sins forgiven which is the greatest blessing it seems unreasonable to refuse lesser blessings. You take His blood but blush at a sunset?

"Do not fear little flock, it is the Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom." Only don't insult His goodness with suspicion or unbelief.

So I've got two words for you

1. Sovereignty
2. Trust

God is a good Captain of the Host, He always has enough soldiers to give everyone a break long enough to eat and rest. Remember how Saul caused Israel to sin by forbidding them to eat and rest so then they ate illegally? That's what you're in danger of. Don't be ignorant of human nature: You WILL eat, if you don't feed on Christ your flesh will come up with another idea...

Trust me I've made that mistake. Feast on Christ or you will fall for the devil's delights.

So while you rest and feast, realize that God is a wise commander and in His Sovereignty He has set up before hand the necessary "cover fire" for you to escape into His presence. Trust Him to take care of those people while I enjoy Him. He

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will, He cares for them more than you do.

Lastly i had to make this basic choice since it is one we make every day with our time:

Who is more important:

God or people?

If your answer is God then you are a Christian.

if you answer is people then you are a Humanist.

Hope this helps with perspective, it helped me

Re: I need victory over "doing something" - posted by beenblake (), on: 2005/12/19 11:18

Dear Daniel,

Is it selfish to ask the Lord for help? Is it selfish to enjoy the gifts God gives you?

It seems to me that you are trying to work for the Lord. You feel guilty about not doing enough, because you are trying to work for the Lord. Do not work in Christ, rather, let Christ work in you. If Christ is truly working in you, then you would not feel guilt. You would not feel like there is more to do. Rather, you would respond to Christ and His calling, at the moment He calls you, and have immense peace and joy in your heart for doing that which the Lord asks of you.

God's work is a privledge, not a requirement. God does not need anyone to preach. He could call the rocks to preach. He could use the angels to spread His word. He uses each of us so that we may take part.

To be called into the service of God is a gift. God gives us gifts that we may delight and enjoy them. God appoints, assigns, and chooses each according to thier own task, not to burden them, but for us to enjoy.

The word "enjoy" means "en-joy" or "with joy". It means to "take delight in." When we are filled with the Holy Spirit in the presence of God, we are filled "with joy." God wants us to enjoy Him. He wants us to delight in Him and all His gifts.

If you gave me a brand new car for Christmas and I drove the car around banging it into everything, letting it get dirty, speeding everywhere, not getting oil changes and such, how would you feel? Would you think that I was thankful? What if I kept the car in a garage, never let anyone see it, and didn't drive it around at all. Would you think that I liked the car?

If I was truly thankful for such a gift, I would use the car as you intended. I would drive keep it clean, take care of it. I wouldn't abuse it, but I would appreciate it. I would also share it with people in need.

The same is true with all the gifts of God, from Jesus, to our body, to a beautiful sunset, to friends and family.

Take delight and be thankful for all that God gives you. There is no better way to say "Thank you" to God then to enjoy the life he gives you.

Pleasure and joy are two different things. It is true we should be careful not to be selfish and let sin take control. Do not take pleasure in sin and wickedness. Rather, take joy in righteousness. Rejoice in Christ!! Give yourself to Jesus every day.

Do not feel guilty about enjoying God. And if you do feel guilty in His presence, check yourself. To be in the presence of God and to feel guilt is a sure sign of sin in your heart. Are you truly giving yourself over to God? Are you truly submitting unto Christ? Or are you seeking Christ or your own way?

God loves us. God wants to bless us. He wants to give and care for us. He wants us to rely and trust in Him like a Father. He wants us to have a personal and intimate relationship with Him. Embrace God's love. Let God love you.

In love,
Blake

Re: - posted by philologos (), on: 2005/12/19 13:45

To continue on this theme, here's a little wisdom from the Psalms...

“What shall I render unto the LORD for all his benefits toward me? I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the LORD.” (Psa. 116:12-13, KJVS) and captured in a beautiful expository hymn by Charles Wesley...What shall I render to my God

For all His mercy's store?

I'll take the gifts He hath bestowed,

And humbly ask for more.

The sacred cup of saving grace

I will with thanks receive,

And all His promises embrace,

And to His glory live.

My vows I will to His great Name

Before His people pay,

And all I have, and all I am,

Upon His altar lay.

Thy lawful servant, Lord, I owe

To Thee whatever is mine,

Born in Thy family below,

And by redemption thine.

Thy hands created me, Thy hands

From sin have set me free,

The mercy that hath loosed my bands

Hath bound me fast to Thee.

The God of all redeeming grace

My God I will proclaim,

Offer the sacrifice of praise,

And call upon His Name.

Praise Him, ye saints, the God of love,

Who hath my sins forgiven,

Till, gathered to the church above,

We sing the songs of Heaven.

Re: The Sovereignty of the Captain of the Host, on: 2005/12/19 13:46

sj - I loved your post. Thank you so much for explaining all that from your personal experience. 8-)