

Business Minded

LUKE 2:48-52

Not everyone will understand God's call on your life

Luke 2:48-50 - ⁴⁸ So when they saw Him, they were amazed; and His mother said to Him, "Son, why have You done this to us? Look, Your father and I have sought You anxiously." ⁴⁹ And He said to them, "Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?" ⁵⁰ But they did not understand the statement which He spoke to them.

God almost always places people in your life that will affirm God's calling and God's gifts on your life.

Don't try to explain God's call to an unopen heart.

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The only way to grow in favor with God is through obedience

Luke 2:51-52 - ⁵¹ Then He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them, but His mother kept all these things in her heart. ⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

David wasn't chosen because he would become a godly king, he was chosen because he was a godly shepherd.

Choose the voice, not the uniform. You are called to follow Jesus' voice.

John 4:34 - ³⁴ Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work.

Be content where you have been called, God will raise you up in due time, if you remain faithful and humble.

John 5:30 - ³⁰ I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.

Following God will cost you relationships

John 6:66-67 - ⁶⁶ From that *time* many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more. ⁶⁷ Then Jesus said to the twelve, “Do you also want to go away?”

Matthew 10:34-39 - ³⁴ “Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword. ³⁵ For I have come to ‘set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law’; ³⁶ and ‘a man’s enemies *will be* those of his *own* household.’ ³⁷ He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. ³⁸ And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. ³⁹ He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it.

You cannot have a social status and a God status. We must choose God or people; we cannot please both.

A heavenly mindset is not compatible with this world.

God will allow you to go through trials to increase your faith and to show His power

James 1:2-4 - ² Consider it nothing but joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you fall into various trials. ³ Be assured that the testing of your faith [through experience] produces endurance [leading to spiritual maturity, and inner peace]. ⁴ And let endurance have its perfect result *and* do a thorough work, so that you may be perfect and completely developed [in your faith], lacking in nothing. (AMP)

“God never uses anyone greatly until He tests them deeply. – A. W. Tozer

Luke 4:13-14 - ¹³ Now when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from Him until an opportune time. ¹⁴ Then Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and news of Him went out through all the surrounding region.

Jesus' ministry didn't start in the synagogue, but the wilderness.

“Perhaps only when human effort had done its best and failed, would God's power alone be free to work.” – Corrie Ten Boom

It is not about the size of the ministry but the faithfulness of the minister

John 12:27-33 - ²⁷ “Now My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save Me from this hour’? But for this purpose, I came to this hour. ²⁸ Father, glorify Your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, *saying*, “I have both glorified *it* and will glorify *it* again.” ²⁹ Therefore the people who stood by and heard *it* said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to Him.” ³⁰ Jesus answered and said, “This voice did not come because of Me, but for your sake. ³¹ Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out. ³² And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all *peoples* to Myself.” ³³ This He said, signifying by what death He would die.

1 Corinthians 15:58 - ⁵⁸ Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord [always doing your best and doing more than is needed], being *continually* aware that your labor [even to the point of exhaustion] in the Lord is not futile *nor* wasted [it is never without purpose].

Never judge success by human standards

Mark 6:4-6 - ⁴ But Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor except in his own country, among his own relatives, and in his own house.” ⁵ Now He could do no mighty work there, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed *them*. ⁶ And He marveled because of their unbelief. Then He went about the villages in a circuit, teaching.

Success is accomplishing God’s goals in God’s timing

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1 Corinthians 3:5-7 - ⁵ Who then is Paul, and who *is* Apollos, but ministers through whom you believed, as the Lord gave to each one? ⁶ I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. ⁷ So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase.

Success is not found where there is no opposition. If the devil isn't fighting, he probably isn't worried.

Churches do not grow because they are free from spiritual attacks and persecution, but because they remain faithful and hard working in spite of them.

God will always send the appropriate help at the appropriate time

“Depend on it, God’s work is done in God’s way will never lack God’s supplies” – Hudson Taylor

2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - ⁹ And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore, most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. ¹⁰ Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ’s sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

When the job is done, God will give you a new task or a new body

John 20:17 - ¹⁷ Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, ‘I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.’ ”

2 Timothy 4:7 - ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.