Chapter 8 "Everywhere for Jesus"

"For the love of Christ compels us." 2 Corinthians 5:14

"As believers in Jesus, we are ambassadors of heaven's kingdom. We are situated on the foreign soil of a fallen earth, but this compromised version of it is not our home. We are in the world, but we are not "of the world" (John 17:14, 16). Instead of mixing in seamlessly with it, we must remain constantly aware that we are on assignment to represent the interests and ideals of the kingdom from which we've been sent. This means everywhere we go and in everything we do, we are ambassadors for Him. The assignment doesn't change depending on whatever else we are doing each day. We are always on mission. Everyone we meet, when they're around us for any length of time, should be able to tell who we are and what our assignment is, not because we're announcing it but because of the way we live out the ideals of our King and His kingdom."

Excerpt From I Surrender All by Priscilla Shirer

Question 1: List the people whose examples have most influenced the trajectory of your life for the glory of God.

Question 2: Did they disciple you directly or was their impact indirect?

Question 3: What talents, experiences, passions, gifting and spiritual insight has the Lord given you that provide you a unique vantage point through which His glory can be reflected through you to others?

<u>Talents:</u> Often we don't recognize our abilities as talents because we take them for granted. A talent is a natural aptitude or skill that comes easier for you than it does for the average person. If you're not sure what your talents are, try asking a couple of your closest friends what they think you do well. Whether you agree or disagree, their answers will be good food for thought. After all, your friends see your life from an angle you never could.

<u>Spiritual Gifts:</u> Spiritual gifts are manifestations of God's character and power given to believers by the Holy Spirit for the building up of the church and the display of His glory. Sadly, many believers leave their spiritual gifts unopened. This often happens due to fear, lack of information or both.

Life Experience: No one in history has ever lived out the same experiences that you have. Because of those experiences, you can see a facet of God's glory from a completely unique perspective! We also share experiences with others: such as where you're from, family background, ethnicity, schools, hobbies, interests, friends in common, years married, number of kids, career path, or ministry passions. Or you may connect over more challenging experiences, such as childhood trauma, losses, learning challenges, insecurities, discouragement, depression, anxiety, financial challenges, traumatic events, illness, injury, or grief. While it's great to connect over good things we have in common, we tend to shy away from mentioning the more unsettling areas of life. Being real about the difficult experiences God has brought you through is often the very thing He uses to build a deeper heart connection between us and those around us. Life experiences (both good and not-so-good) is how it fuels our passion. For example, someone going through the heartbreak of bankruptcy tend to have a passion for helping people get out of debt. Those who've struggled with weight loss often have a passion for healthy nutrition and fitness. Remember, the more we "surrender" ourselves to God, the more deeply our passion will be known in specific areas and then, you will find yourself fired up by a Holy Spirit passion you might never have felt on your own.

"There's so much more out there for you.... Your Father wants you thriving as His child, bearing the fruit He alone is able to grow in you so that He can use it to feed others, so that His kingdom can grow, so that His children can mature, so that His will may "be done on earth as it is in heaven" - Matt. 6:10

Come, bringing everything.

Come, bringing all.

Come, be His surrendered disciple."

Prayer: "Lord, . . . grant that your servants may speak your word with all boldness, while you stretch out your hand for healing, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.

In Jesus's name.
The One who makes surrender worth it.
Amen."