

Nothing Will Keep Me from Jesus IV

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All Bible quotations are taken from King James Version unless otherwise noted. This file contains notes from the sharing by Pastor Lesa Ankney at God's Girls Ministry on July 26, 2010. All personal testimonies are omitted from these notes. I believe personal testimonies belong to the witness only and should not be repeated by anyone else, especially in a public forum. Verses referred to in these notes that are in parenthesis and in italic font were not shared by speaker, but are supplied by editor as reference to spiritual principals for your learning.

Tonight's meeting was eclectic of sorts. Several women gave their personal testimonies regarding the one word they each received last week. None of that is recorded here. After the presentations, when Lesa began a dissertation, I began writing notes.

To determine what your gifting is, ask two questions:

1. What am I good at?

You will naturally be good at what you are gifted in.

2. What am I passionate about?

Your gifting will also lie in the subject area you are most passionate about.

Romans 6:16-18

16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? 17 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. 18 Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

We are no longer slaves to sin. We are slaves to righteousness. The term slave to righteousness is not a negative thing here. Sin keeps you bound keeping you away from your liberty and freedom.

After Moses was given the ten commandments, when the people heard the thunderings and lightening they were afraid and stood far off.

Exodus 20:18

And all the people saw the thunderings, and the lightnings, and the noise of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking: and when the people saw it, they removed, and stood afar off.

They wanted Moses to speak to them. They were afraid of the power of God Almighty. They could not see Him as a loving Heavenly Father and moved apart from Him. If we cannot see God as our loving Daddy, that can keep us apart from Jesus in like manner.

God revealed to Lesa that she looked inside all the time & beat herself up. God was tired of it; it is its own form of self-righteousness, being self-focused, believing what she felt was the truth but not what God's Word said was the Truth.

DO NOT BE AFRAID, Moses said. How many of us keep at a distance from God that keeps us from Him?

False Self-sufficiency.

False Self-competence.

God is not interested in your sense of perfection.

We want to know Him personally and intimately without a false sense of awe with God. He is not just way out there somewhere. He has called us to be the bride of Christ. A bride and groom are intimate with each other. Is that shocking? At first when I thought of being intimate with Jesus, I was shocked too, indignant, even.

A hot house is a climate controlled environment. Hot house grown tomatoes look like tomatoes. They can function as a tomato. But they have no root system that reaches down deep to where the nutrients are in the soil. There is no soil. The tomatoes are grown in a water based medium with minerals added to it. There is limited nutritional value in a hot house tomato that is gassed to *appear* ripe. It functions as a tomato but there is no substance to it. As much as I love the church and believe we need the church, (it is vital for our spiritual growth to fellowship with the body of Christ and assemble together) many of our Christian churches have become like a controlled space like a hot house where no roots can develop in the people planted there.

Last week, we endured 105 plus degree weather. Even though we faithfully watered our garden everyday, the tomatoes struggled against the stressful heat. There are days we will be strained by the 'heat' but that is when our roots will grow deeper. Paul learned to be content in every situation. [*Philippians 4:11*]

GOD IS FAITHFUL ALL THE TIME. EVERY TIME WITH OUT EXCEPTION.

What is the one thing that keeps you at a distance from Jesus and keeps you from going all-feet-in-deeper with Him? What one word comes to mind? That is your idol and you need to pull it down.

Write your one word down and seek God about pulling down this thing.