

WHO HAS YOUR LUNCH?

I. If there is anything that the Lord of the Church is trying to do in our day, it is to move us from a maintenance mode into a mission mode.

A. We can see this in the following scriptures.

- a. Matthew 10:5-8 - From receiving to giving
- b. Luke 15:11 & 19 - From give me to make me.**
- c. John 7:37-38 - From drinking to flowing

A. Most Christians are sitting in Churches warming pews waiting for the mythical day when they are ready to do something for the Lord.

1. Your reasoning is that they are not qualified to get it out until they get it right. That you need to live and be before you go do and say.
- 2. The problem with this kind of thinking is that by doing so you divorce yourselves from the very dynamic that is designed to get you right.**
 - a. It's only as you get it out can you get it right. Hebrews 11:32-34.
 - b. A flowing river is self-purifying.**
 - c. It's not learning the will of God that matures you but doing the will of God.
 - d. The best way to get the Holy Spirit to do something to you is to allow Him to do something through you.**

B. There's no question that a lot of people in the Church need a lot of maintenance, and to release them into mission would be to invite problems and controversy.

- 1. But not to do so is to separate them from the very dynamic that brings about real maintenance.**
2. You will also lose out on your greatest source of productivity.
 - a. Proverbs 14:4 - "Where no oxen are the manger is clean, but much increase come by the strength of the oxen."
 - b. New Believers, *if not interfered with*, will have a Natural Instinct to Evangelize
 - c. The more we train people how to say it right, the more they fear that they will say it wrong!**
3. 1 Corinthians 14:40 - "Let all things be done decently and in order."

II. John 4:1-42 - From this story about Jesus and the woman at the well I want you to see that it is in mission that people find most of their maintenance.

A. Verses 1-6.

1. V-4 - Jesus had to pass through Samaria. (dei {die})

- a. **necessity in reference to what is required to attain some end.**
- b. necessity established by the counsel and decree of God.

2. **The "had to" in this scripture didn't come from the convenience of geography but from the still small voice of the Holy Spirit from within.**

a. No good Jew would pass through Samaria. The Samaritans were a mixed breed with an unorthodox brand of Judaism.

b. **The word "Samaritan" was synonymous with everything vile and contemptible.**

John 8:48 - "The Jews answered and said unto him, Say we not well that thou art a Samaritan, and hast a demon."

Matthew 10:5 & Luke 9:52 Jesus told His disciples not to go through Samaria.

c. "Pass through Samaria" represents anything that you may feel pressure to do that is inconvenient, difficult, or undesirable.

3. V-6 - **Jesus was weary from the journey, He was hungry, He was depleted, He was in need. Weary = (kopiao {kop-ee-ah'-o})**

- a. to grow weary, tired, exhausted (with toil or burdens or grief)
- b. **to labour with wearisome effort, to toil. Matthew 11:28**

B. Verses 7-8 - There are two answers given to Jesus' condition

1. V-8 - **The disciples' answer to his condition was to have Him rest, get a drink, while they went to get some lunch.**

2. V-7 - The Father's answer to His son's condition was to send someone of His own making.

a. **The Father's answer was to send someone who was in more need than Him.**

b. Lunch showed up disguised as a Samaritan woman with a lot of problems.

c. **Jesus needed rest and it came disguised as work.**

d. Jesus needed maintenance and it came disguised as a mission opportunity.

3. Mission Opportunities seldom come at convenient times.

a. When you are not up to it the Spirit is.

b. The Lord has an easier time working through your weakness than He does your strength.

c. God's power shows up best in weak people.

C. Verses 31-33 - The disciples are trying to get Jesus to eat the lunch they brought. But He explains to them He has already ate the lunch His Father sent.

1. The disciples left a weary Jesus, they found a rejuvenated Jesus.

2. They left a hungry Jesus they found a nourished Jesus.

3. They left a depleted Jesus, they found a overflowing Jesus.

D. Verse 34 - Jesus said His food (nourishment, sustenance, replenishing, maintenance) came from doing the will (mission) of His father.

1. Jesus is saying that:

a. Your nourishment comes from nourishing others.

b. Your sustenance come from sustaining others.

c. Your strength comes from strengthening others.

d. Your rest comes from working for others.

e. Your prosperity comes from prospering others.

f. Your maintenance comes from His mission.

2. It's in mission that you find all the maintenance you can handle.

3. The question that needs to be answered is who has your lunch.

a. Frog

b. Raymond

c. Kaley

4. If you sow the Lord for someone else, you will reap Him for yourself as well.

2 Corinthians 9:10

5. I have never brought the Lord to someone else without Him showing up for me as well.

6. John 13:1-4 - We need to move from Suppertime to Service Time.