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Theme: What Are You Waiting For?

Scripture: Luke 9:23 (NIV)

“Then he said to them all: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.”

A Thought:

Our church celebrates the fact that we are so honored to support many missionaries working on behalf of the Lord throughout the world. It takes a special person to step out in faith and follow the Lord's leading. Is God speaking to you? I believe he is. Be patient and listen. In their book, *Experiencing God*, Henry Blackaby and Claude King correctly point out that God speaks to His people...”But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and will remind you of everything I have said to you” (John14:26). This verse is powerful in every way. First, we have a counselor the Holy Spirit at our side. Second, He will teach us all things. Third, He will ensure that we remember “these” things. Jesus was talking to His disciples and He meant business as stated in John 14:15 (NIV)...”If you love me, you will obey what I command.” To do His work we must love Him, we must have faith, we must be obedient and as Blackaby stated in his book we must be willing to make daily sacrifices and adjustments...Isaiah 55:9 (NIV) “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.” To follow Him will require small and or tremendous adjustments. Therefore, say goodbye to your beloved “comfort level” status.

Now....what are your thoughts? Write them down.

Talk to yourself:

- Are you being obedient? Reading the word? Praying?
- Is God talking to you? How does God want to use you?
- Are you willing to step out in faith?
- Are you willing to make adjustments in your life?
- What are you waiting for? The church needs you - just ask.

Scriptures to read:

- 1King 19:1-21; Matthew 6:24; Luke 18:18-27; John 8:47;
- John 14:26; John 15:7-8; Romans 12-2-3; Hebrews 10:24-25; Hebrew 6:12;
- Philippians 4:8-9; James 2:14; James 2:20-24

Quote: Ministry Tools Resource Center (MinTools.com)

Take heed: Each part is important - God wants to use you.

- Your walk motivates you for ministry....
- Your spiritual gifts enable you for ministry....
- Your passions give you focus to ministry....
- Your personality expresses itself in ministry....
- Your experiences help develop you for ministry....

Bottom Line: How long do we sit in our comfortable pews and wonder what God has in store for us? Hence, what is God's will in our lives? I am not talking about packing up and gathering the family and off you go to South America. Big things and small things on behalf of the Lord are good things. I stated earlier that you may have to step out of your comfort level. Adjustments in you daily life may be required i.e., watching less television, getting up earlier, volunteering for various church events, children ministries (teaching and assisting), additional studying of the word, ushering when your feet hurt...oh, I could go and on. I think you got the point. Luke 9:24-25 (NIV) "For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will save it." What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit his very self?" Gents...what are you waiting for? **NOW.....THAT'S THE BOTTOM LINE.**

Spiritual Dabbler, Your bro, Ray

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