

Prepared For Service

The Gospel of The Kingdom - Week 8 (4-27-22)

2 Peter 1:1-10

“Hard times always create opportunity, and opportunity often comes camouflaged as hard work, inconvenience, sacrifice, serving, etc.” DL

I. Faith

A. Vs 1 - “...like precious faith...”

B. Faith works by love - Galatians 5:6

1. The level of our faith is determined by the level of our revelation of God’s love.

a) 1 John 4:7-11

2. Revelation of God’s love breeds service.

a) 2 Corin. 5:14-15 - The love of Christ constraineth us...

b) 2 Corin. 5:21-6:1 - Because of God’s great love for us, don’t receive God’s grace in vain (for yourself AND for others).

C. We must have faith in God in order to serve His people

1. It’s the Holy Spirit that does the ministering, we are just the vessel that He flows through.

2. We must build our faith and confidence in walking with and listening to the Holy Spirit to accomplish this.

3. Even Jesus could not do what He did by His own will or power.

a) John 5:30

D. We have faith in and serve God... Not People

1. We must be putting our faith and trust in God, not in the responses/recognition of people!

2. Pilot tried to wash his hands of the crucifixion of Jesus because he trusted in men rather than what he knew about Jesus.

3. Luke 10:25-29 - the lawyer wanted to justify himself, and excuse his unwillingness to help some people.

E. Without developing faith in God and His love we will never bear spiritual fruit in our life that other people can see and partake in.

II. Abundance Mindset

A. God supplies in abundance!

1. Matt. 14:20-21

5. 2 Corin. 9:8

2. Luke 5:4-9

6. Eph. 3:20

3. Luke 6:38

7. Psalm 23:5

4. John 10:10

8. Proverbs 3:9-10

B. Vs. 3 - “... hath given unto us all things...”

1. It’s through the knowledge

2. When we know that God is supplying everything that we need, we can live in it and trust it for ourselves as well as to bless others.

3. "Freely you have received, freely give" - Matt. 10:8
 - a) No strings attached!
 - b) Both hands open...
4. By learning to trust in God and His abundant provision we can freely give our finances, time, emotional energy, love, encouragement, etc.
 - a) And we can do these things without needing any of it in return!
- C. If we do not develop an abundance mindset and full reliance on God's supply in our life, then we will always want to hold too tightly to what we currently possess.
 1. We are putting our trust in the blessing rather than the Blessor, and therefore are not free to minister to the people around us.

III. Obedience/Discipline

- A. Vs 10 - "... give diligence..."
- B. Obedience is better than sacrifice - 1 Sam. 15:22
 1. We must be in the practice of hearing from God in order to be obedient!
 - a) Romans 8:14 - "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God."
 - b) Galatians 6:8-10 - so to the spirit
- C. Faith without works is dead - James 2:14-20
 1. Jesus was **MOVED** with compassion... He didn't just feel compassionate.
 2. John 15:8-10