

July 2009 Week3 TEACHING

Steer Your Vision!

Part 3: COMBING THROUGH

The world is a cold and calculating place, and it feels impossible sometimes to wade through it. We can become so exasperated by the process of trying to get ahead and waiting to catch a break that we just want to give up. In this state, it's frustrating to hear that you have to strategize more, do more, and think higher to get the rewards of your efforts, but that is exactly what you have to do. Stretching to the limits is a requirement of faith; it's just the way it works. You can run yourself into the ground trying to get around it, but there you'll be, stuck in the ground...knocking yourself in the head for not figuring out how to trust and believe through the faith of Jesus Christ.

This is your assignment, write this on a piece a paper and keep it posted some place where your eyes come across it at least once a day. *"Wherever you are, God demands that you go farther."* While on this earth, you will never get to a place where you can say *"I have arrived..."* There are always more people to love, a greater level of walking in Christ to achieve, and more work to do in the faith. God set up the system to respond to our allegiance to all of these.

More will forever be required of you to get what you want and more will be required to get to the next level of spiritual growth and maturity. It's required because latent potential is never enough power to transform and attract what we want. That potential must be met with a determination that is so strong within you that you are willing to give up the things that hold you back in order to make room for the things that propel you forward.

We become sad and depressed because the wait can be exhaustive, but it will exhaust you to the point of giving up only if you have doubt in your heart. It depletes you only if you fail to recognize and live up to what is required. God isn't making you wait. The process of pulling off the old to acquire the new is the thing that consumes this valuable resource called time, and you control how fast or slow the process moves along; therefore how close or how far you are from attainment is a matter of how diligent you are to comb through your own personal agenda.

God has given us this extraordinary ability to create. Our dreams and aspirations are proof positive of it. We each have a vision of what we want, but we don't get to dream it up and abandon it completely for God to take care of. He's a responsible parent, and responsible parenting means that a child is taught how to see a vision through to its end, and to do so in the absolute best way possible. When my mother told me to clean my room, she didn't mean that I should just make the bed and leave everything else in a mess. I had to make the bed, vacuum, dust, and tidy up wherever necessary. When she came in to inspect my work, she had a vision of what an adequately cleaned room should look like. She made sure that my vision equaled

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hers. Wherever I missed the mark, she would watch as I did it over. And if it appeared as though I lacked the appropriate knowledge to get it done in a way that pleased her, she would instruct and help me.

Listen, hear me well now. God always, always, always leads you to what you seek when what you seek will potentially please Him. And here's another gem that I say all the time, and I'll say it again. It is so incredibly important to our spiritual journeys that it bears repeating over and over again. Here it is: Right this very moment you are strategically positioned for all the success and abundance you could ever hope to attain. It doesn't matter what your situation or circumstance looks like. God knew about it well before you did. He has already activated a plan that will work together for your spiritual growth and well being, and there is nothing that you can do about it except to purpose yourself to walk accordingly.

You can't go by what you feel or what you see. You may look at your room and think it looks pretty tidy. You may not see the dust in the crevices. You may not see the little details that require attention, but He sees, and we mustn't think for one minute that He will take care of them without making sure that we see them too. This is the way we learn to walk by faith, by allowing the Father to show us a very honest picture of ourselves and an honest picture of how our actions have caused us to miss out. This picture not only includes the fear that we haven't addressed, but it also includes the habit patterns we've developed out of that fear. And rest assured that it isn't enough to know that we have a particular fear. We have to begin to address it in a way that will eradicate it, so that God's love becomes more deeply rooted within. Kim talks more about this in her blog this week, so please check that out. But know that Heavenly Father will lead us through this if we'll allow Him. He'll guide us to be better and stronger through the spirit.

Proverbs 3:5 -7 (The Message)

5-6 Trust God from the bottom of your heart; don't try to figure out everything on your own. Listen for God's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; he's the one who will keep you on track.

God requires your whole heart, half of it will not do. We have to trust that wherever He leads, it's appropriate and best to follow, but He will not make you follow. He will not steer your vision for you. *"he's the one who will keep you on track."* It didn't say that He would be the one to do the walking. YOU are to journey forward in faith, and He will direct you. Your willingness to follow is dictated by your faithfulness to comb through your environment, experiences, and agenda to look for His guidance. It make look to you as though He isn't guiding. It may feel as though you are not hearing from Him, but if it looks and feels that way, it is because sin or fear is blocking your way, just as it blocked Saul's in 1Samuel 28:6.

1Samuel 28:6 (The Message)

6 Saul prayed to God, but God didn't answer—neither by dream nor by sign nor by prophet.

If you're blocked, get unblocked. Accept the consequences of your bad actions, wrong decisions, and negative attitudes and behavior. Come clean before the Father and make a

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commitment to allow His love to penetrate your dark places. He won't leave you when you do this. He'll guide you, but you have to move in the direction of His love first.

This is why it is so important for you to never give up on your vision, because in order to be guided you have to be moving towards something...something that increases your faith, your capacity to love through Christ, and your sense of self. The more you walk in the direction of increase, the more of it you will see. God will not guide you to failure, therefore you must deduce that He is guiding you to eminent success, but you will not experience His pruning and prodding you forward by continually standing still. You've got to be confident enough to move out in His love.

Again, constantly seeking and combing through to see what you need to see is a big part of *"moving out"*. If you don't believe that you'll find God's guidance, if you don't believe that He'll show you how to bring your vision into fruition, then you probably won't seek these things out, but if you do have faith, then you'll be diligent to the search. You'll look under, over, and in every nook and cranny. You'll do this because you are certain, beyond all certainty, that what you seek is a stone's throw away.

Stay tuned for "Part 3: The Right Path"

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