

March 27, 2011
Bro. Steve Farris

Monday

Is. 64:8 We are the clay, and You our potter;
And all of us are the work of Your hand.

The molding of the vessel is the potter's responsibility. He will put pressure on one side of the clay and drive deep his hand into its center. He will apply water to the mud to make its shaping possible. Then when it is completed, he will fire it in the hottest oven. So God has laid His hand upon you: pressure, flood, and fire are His messengers of choice. In the end the vessel is made useful and the hollowed out center is perfect for containing the Spirit of God. Do not despise the shaping. Do not despise the fire. Know that these events of your life are requisite to your glory.

Tuesday

Luke 10:2 "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."

We are always asking God to do something for us. We are always seeking God to answer our prayers. Maybe the focus should be the other way around. What would happen if you determined to do something in response to God's request of you? What if you answered or became the answer to the very prayer (request of) God? Pray for laborers. More than that, hear God's call to be a laborer in the field. The harvest is ripe. The laborers are few.

Wednesday

Acts 1:8 "You shall be My witnesses ..."

There is so much within this verse upon which to ponder. Notice that it says, "You *shall be* My witnesses..." There isn't an option given. Every believer *shall be* a witness. In a court of law there are 'expert witnesses', there are effective witnesses, and there are disappointing witnesses. Yet everyone who takes the stand is a witness. In the world's eyes, everyone who claims Christ is a witness for Him. They are watching you in your interactions with the shopkeeper and with your family members. They observe how you react to adversity, conflict, and personal disappointment. They want to see if you are real and they will then make a determination about whether your God is real. You are a witness. Effective or ineffective, that's up to you.

Thursday

Acts 1:8 but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

For you, for me, for our church: it comes down to a simple matter of obedience. God has made His will clear: "you shall be My witnesses". It is a call to each one of us to go. Not everyone will go across the globe; that is where our financial offerings of obedience are called for. But everyone should at least go across the street. Not everyone will go across the globe; but surely more should go than are going. "You shall be my witnesses..." Take time today to ask God how you are most effectively to be involved in missions and witness? This time, do so with the attitude of Isaiah. When God said, "whom shall I send?" Isaiah said, "Here am I send me."

Friday

Matt. 5:13-14 "You are the salt of the earth..." "You are the light of the world."

God has called you to be 'salt' and 'light' in your neighborhood. You are there to demonstrate the love and grace of God through your interactions. You should be an example of what God desires a man or woman or family to be. Salt preserves and enhances flavor. Light leads the way in the midst of darkness, bringing hope and guidance. God has placed you where you are to preserve and enhance the lives of others. He has placed you in the midst of your neighborhood so that you can lead the way to Jesus, bringing hope and grace. Be the salt and light of your world.