

June 19, 2011

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Monday

Mark 9:7 Then a cloud formed, overshadowing them, and a voice came out of the cloud, "This is My beloved Son, listen to Him!"

Are you afraid? So were the disciples. Are you unsure what your next step should be? Then you are in the same place that Peter, James, and John found themselves. God's word to them is God's word to you. "This is my Beloved Son, LISTEN TO HIM!" Our fears and problems only grow deeper when we fail to hear the Father's words: "Listen to Him!" We put to shame our profession of faith when we fail to "listen to Him!" How do we listen? By giving heed to His word, the Bible, and making obedience our direct response. God is still saying, "Listen to Him."

Tuesday

Mark 9:24 The boy's father cried out, "I do believe; help my unbelief."

Now here is a word of great assurance. Here is a word of wonderful grace. Though the father had only meager faith, it was enough. He did not have to falsely confess a hope he did not have. He recognized his inability to raise his trust to any higher ground. He did not 'speak a word of faith' as some today so loudly demand. Instead, he simply brought his hope to Jesus as the only means of his son's life. That was enough: merely the faith to bring the need to Jesus. Oh you who have little faith remember, "The Lord said, 'If you had faith like a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and be planted in the sea'; and it would obey you.'" What is faith? It is trust. In whom do you trust? Jesus.

Wednesday

Luke 6:46 "Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?"

Are you like most Christians? Do you affirm the truth of God's word with your lips but deny it with your behavior. Many say they believe in God's promises, provisions, and plans, but at the simple and straightforward instruction of giving, they chaff, squirm, disbelieve, and disobey. If believers believed, there would be plenty of resources in the storehouse to win the world, feed the hungry, do ministry and build the Kingdom. Sadly, statistics show that less than 9% of all born-again believers believe God's word enough to tithe. I hear the Father say, "This is my Beloved son, listen to Him! Do you? Will you? Are you expecting the blessings of God without believing, really believing what He says?"

Thursday

Mark 9:35 Sitting down, He called the twelve and said to them, "If anyone wants to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all."

A servant, this is what God calls His disciples to be. The model is clear. Jesus served His disciples taking a towel and washing their feet. The example is deep. Jesus humbled Himself taking the form of man and then willingly died on the cross to serve you and me. The church is often filled with all kinds of people with all kinds of needs. But the church is supposed to be filled with servants, serving one another, serving God, serving in any and all tasks. The greatest church will be the church filled with the greatest number of servants. Why are you in the church? God put you in the church to serve. Now where will you serve?

Friday

Mark 9:24 Immediately the boy's father cried out ...

The world needs crying fathers, dads who cry out on behalf of their children. The world needs dads who love their families so much that they are willing to place them first before all other desires. The world needs fathers whose passion is the salvation of their families, who walk in grace, conviction, and godliness before their children. Passionate for the Lord. Willing to forgo 'happiness' for the holiness of their children. Earnest in their own walk with God. Men who know how to cry out to God in prayer. The world needs crying fathers (and mothers). The world needs you to cry out for your children!