Devotion #278

**Don’t Miss the Point**

**John 9:4 (NASB)** *"We must work the works of Him who sent Me as long as it is day; night is coming when no one can work.”*

It must have been more than amazing to live with Jesus and watch Him do the things He did. No doubt the disciples were rocked to their core on many occasions. Imagine seeing Jesus turn water into wine (John 2:1-11) or see Him give sight to blind people (John 9) or heal limbs (John 5). And imagine the amazement of the disciples as they watched the dead be raised to life right in front of their eyes. (John 11) It must have been truly remarkable.

You would think that the disciples would never lose sight of why the Lord called them. But we know they did. They were men, human beings, filled with sin from their birth. So, like you and me, they got lost in what they were supposed to be doing which was to work for the Father. That was their priority once Jesus called them. But they failed over and over. At times they made themselves believe that one of them or a couple of them were going to be greater in the kingdom of God than the others. (Matt 20) At times they argued among themselves over trivial things. (John 6) Yet all the while, the Lord continued His work, setting a pattern for them to follow - to keep doing the work of the Lord and not get lost in the issues of their own hearts or anything else.

Too often, it is easy to get lost in thinking this life is about us and what we want. We spend most of our days thinking about what we can achieve before our time is over. We use countless brain hours trying to figure out how to buy the next house or the next cool items that we think we need when in reality it is probably just a want. It’s not that those things are wrong to think about and even have. The Lord wants us to enjoy this life, but He doesn’t want us to forget what our real purpose is.

If you read the scriptures carefully, you will see how many times the disciples got distracted over their new-found circumstances while the Lord was busy doing His Father’s work. It was a stark reminder that our human minds are so easily pulled in wrong directions.

As you look at your life, what do you see? What do you see your attention being drawn to most of the time? Where is your mind focusing most of the day? I understand that we must work and do what our bosses want us to do, but I’m more so asking what is the motive of your heart? Is it to be the best at what you do? That’s not a bad thing. In fact the Lord said whatever we do we are to do with our full heart as if we are serving Him. (Colossians 3:23) And that is the point - whatever you and I do in this life, even the simplest of things, should be motivated out of a desire to honor God. If we are farmers or educators or businessmen or women or if we are students or whatever, our goal and greatest desire should be one thing, to honor God. We should be doing all we do so that He is glorified and so that others will see our love for Him, and they will want to know Him as we know Him.

So again I’ll ask, what is the motive of your life? Where is your heart focusing? Is it on God, or you and what you want? Don’t forget that if the Lord was not sustaining life for each of us, we would not even have air to breath to accomplish what we want to accomplish. (Hebrews 1:3) Don’t forget that He gave His all for us so we could have life. The least we can do is remember what our purpose is - to work for Him in all we do.

So consider letting go of your wants and desires and ask God for His desires for you. Let go of your job if it is what you want. I’m not saying quit your job. I’m saying, let what you do be for God’s glory and not yours. Make Him the central focus of your life. That way you will be blessed with all you need, and you will be doing your Father’s work. It’s no accident you are in the place of life you are in. God has strategically put you where He wants you. He wants you to be the best employee or spouse or parent or student or whatever and at the same time do what you do for Him and not yourself. After all, we were called to follow Him. He is not called to follow us.