

“Just Go”

When Jesus says “go” then you just go. When He says “do” then you just do. When He says “stop” then you just stop. It is as simple as that. How many of you know that what is simple does not necessarily mean that it’s easy? Just because something appears simple in task, it may not transpire into easy. In fact, it is usually the opposite. The simple in concept or instruction is often difficult in execution. However, Jesus, fully aware and knowing all things, will never ask us to do something without equipping us first and without a specific purpose or plan. Our Lord is not a Lord of random, mindless acts. He is brilliantly calculating in all His strategies and plans. So, when He says “go, do, or stop”, it comes with the full faith backing of God. His clear instruction has purpose. His purpose is often not understood by us, but we are not asked to understand. We’re to act just knowing that He has thought of everything and has already made a way for us to complete the task successfully. There is no second guessing God’s directions. This is faith! In fact, we can see this principle at work in Luke 9:1-6 as Jesus gave instructions to the Twelve apostles. Let’s examine.

When Jesus instructed the Twelve to “go preach the Kingdom of God and to heal the sick” (vs. 1), He gave a simple instruction. However, as we will see there was nothing easy about it. In fact, the Twelve were told to “take nothing for the journey” (vs. 3). They were to leave with basically the shirts on their backs, no money, no extra clothing, no food, no plans to stay anywhere specifically, no accessories, nothing for comfort...nothing! Imagine that! The Twelve were about to embark on a long journey to distant places to preach to some that would be hostile in unwelcoming towns (not an overnight visit to cousin Vinnie’s with the intentions of making it back in time for breakfast). What a pleasure trip, huh? This would be no easy task as I am sure the Twelve must have thought. Nevertheless, they went because Jesus said so. Period. However, Jesus knew that it would not be an easy task which is why He gave them “power and authority...” and *then* sent them out. In other words, Jesus knew that He would have to equip them first with the necessary faculties to ensure success for those that He called to task. He understood the instructions to be simple but not easy. He provided for them all they needed before they left but that is not all. He would provide for them all they would need while on the journey as well. I believe that the Twelve had incredible faith in knowing that Jesus would take care of them even though they probably knew that the execution of the instruction would not come easy.

A few further interesting observations...the Twelve were to rely on His provision from day to day. They were not to rely on anything else which is why they were to take nothing for the journey. They departed in faith believing that somehow in some way their needs would be met. This is an exercise in faith. This also provided a way for Jesus to prove once again to the Twelve that he was the Great Provider. This exhibit of provision and protection would serve as yet another example to the people of Jesus’ sovereignty. Jesus knew that as they encountered people from the many villages that the Twelve would visit, the people would be amazed at the fact that the apostles had traveled with nothing except reliance on God. What an amazing testimony would the apostles provide to the unbelievers who would clearly see the power of Jesus and believe in their message! Jesus knew this and therefore sent out the apostles with nothing. Consider this; would the testimony of the apostles have been as powerful if they had on their possession money, extra clothing, accessories of comfort, guaranteed places to stay? Probably not. Yet the effectiveness of their testimony was greater when people would see that it was Jesus who provided everything they would need. And, was that not the message after all?

Jesus is going to give us all one day clear instructions. These instructions will be a calling to a task. It will probably be at least one if not many. When He does, rest assured that He will give you the anointing power to complete that task successfully. You will recognize that His instruction will be simple but not easy. However, consider that He has a definite plan and purpose whether or not you see it, and He will provide everything you need to sustain you as you further His cause. Whatever you think you may need to do to prepare...just forget it. He promises to make arrangements for you. All He asks of us is to *just go*.

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