

if the shoe fits

"for My yoke is easy and My burden is light." matt  
11:30

i was listening the other day to dr. michael brown on youtube. for any of you who don't know who he is, he is a christian, jewish scholar who is an expert in scripture, bold in debating, wise in his teaching and is a full blown believer in all the gifts of the Spirit and yet knows how to balance sense and reason with the moving of the Holy Spirit. he was prominently involved in the famous brownsville revival a few years back. i say all this just to give you a sense of who he is and why i remain so impressed with his handling of the word of God.

anyway, he had a caller on the show who was in ministry and was thinking about leaving ministry because he was feeling so much pressure to "perform" what was expected. i was very impressed, as i always am with dr. brown, with his tenderness and wisdom in dealing with the situation.

i'm sure there are many ministers and laymen alike whom the devil is trying to discourage in like manner these days. the thing is, we all need to find our own niche. a scientist would not be comfortable trying to compose a symphony. a poet could not be bridled with the needed constraint of someone writing code for a living. we are all uniquely made and God, being the creator, knows this. if God is asking you to do something outside of your comfort zone, know it is only for a season for a reason; a temporary gesture for a

magnificent purpose. the norm of best results is in the doing of something we are comfortable and familiar with.

the particular situation in this caller's life was that he was working with a pastor geared towards growth and accomplishment. there is nothing wrong with that, but this fellow felt more like a seller needing to meet his monthly quota - so many new members this month, so many baptisms, etc.

there are "mega" churches and then there may be a body of believers with a fervent desire driven towards prayer, content to remain small and intimate. there is nothing wrong with either. there are just different styles and methods. someone may be called to one-on-one ministry while another is driven to teach the masses.

sometimes we try to drive a square peg into a round hole. it just doesn't fit. the apostle paul had a good teaching about how God has set each of us in His body, the Holy Spirit equipping each as He sees fit. he then begins to expound on his beautiful teaching about love in the thirteenth chapter. "and yet i show you a more excellent way." 1 cor 12:31

indeed, love is a more excellent way. it's a "do unto others as you would have them do unto you." i don't remember at which point in dr. brown's teaching he said the following, but it touched me deeply. he said, "pray for others as you would have them pray for you."

i don't know about you, but that drives the meaning

Jesus spoke about "doing" much closer home when i put the word praying in there. although i realize praying without actual doing is like faith without substance - prayer, to me, is spiritual and much more powerful than the actual doing. the spirit realm is the parent realm. without it there would be no existence of any kind. it's where all the power is; all the happenings; all the "unknowns."

when i think of how i would want someone to be praying for me, i become quite overwhelmed; too much to begin to express here. just suffice it to say, i want to know God as intimately as He has known me.

maybe someone today is needing to hear this. maybe they are becoming discouraged by demands or are struggling to make something fit that just won't fit. if you don't have your peace about it, you need to lay it on the altar. i can still remember my mentor saying, "God has called us to peace." we have a promise in scripture. "no temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it." 1c cor 10:13

it may be that you are going through a terrible trial in this moment. "through" is the active word here, you know. this too will pass and remember our God causes "all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose." rom 8:28

does your yoke not fit? maybe you are wearing the wrong one. try His on. "for My yoke is easy and My burden is light." matt 11:30 God bless each and everyone this day. as an old pastor used to say: He is "meer dan genoeg." that's dutch for "more than enough," and He's more than enough to meet your needs today, tomorrow and forever. there is a perfect shoe size for you and you will find yourself in His will as well as His yoke.