

Who Does God Use and In Whom Is God Well Pleased?

There is one thing that I learned early in my ministry, and that is, God only uses those who remain faithful in His service. I truly feel the reason so many Christians struggle with certain issues in their walk with God is because they are so unfaithful to the work of God – other things take first place. Faithfulness to the work of God is not optional. In fact, it is a requirement. Faithfulness is not something that God takes lightly; and one of the requirements of church leaders is that they never put someone in positions of leadership if they are not faithful.

It is no coincidence that those whom God uses most effectively are those who are most fervent in prayer and faithfulness. David, for example, called upon the Lord in the morning, at noon, and at night, and the Lord heard his prayers (Psalm 55:17). Daniel followed the same pattern, praying three times a day from his roof chamber, where he could look out above the rooftops of Babylon toward Jerusalem.

Houses in Babylon often had latticework over their windows to allow ventilation, and Daniel would be visible through that latticework as he faced Jerusalem. He knew that Darius had issued a decree making it illegal to pray and that violating the decree would give his enemies opportunity to accuse him, but he would not forsake prayer or compromise his convictions. He would continue to call upon the Lord and leave any consequences to Him.

That was a bold decision for Daniel to make, especially in light of the punishment he would face. Would you be as bold if you knew that your prayers would lead to persecution and possible death? Perhaps more important, are you that committed to prayer and faithfulness in service, even when you aren't facing persecution? I trust that you are. The seriousness of the spiritual battles you face requires faithfulness in service and faithfulness in prayer.

Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 3:10-15; 4:1-2; Daniel 6:10-11.

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