

Fixed Eyes

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus the author and perfecter of our faith...Hebrews 12:2

Sometimes we look to man to meet our needs. I do think that we need to be actively involved in others' lives. We need to be there for them and help as the Lord guides us. But, there is only One ever-present help in time of trouble. I know I have a tendency to look to man for help, but I am learning that the *first place* I must go is to my Savior. I love Jesus. He is in the saving business. He knows what is best for me, my family and our church.

One of the greatest privileges is found in this scripture, "In him (Jesus) and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence" Ephesians 3:12. Jesus went through a lot in order that we may go to the Creator of the Universe and find help, solutions, wisdom and counsel. God is more than a genius. The Bible says that his IQ makes man's wisdom look foolish (1 Corinthians 1:25) and his counsel is ours! That is wonderful.

Recently I have been seeking the Lord about a decision that I knew I needed to make. I needed real wisdom. I asked and asked. I knocked and knocked (read Matthew 7:7-8). One morning while out for a walk, the Lord dropped his will right into my heart. I knew I had heard from the Lord. It felt so right. As I began to walk in the light of His revealed plan I was met by agreement. The Lord had already prepared the way. I'm so glad that I did not give up. The Lord always has a solution, but timing is also a very important thing to the Lord. Recently I was speaking to a pastor who needed guidance. We met at an event put on by Abundant Life in Willingboro. I gave the man my perspective, but added, "Be patient and wait for the Lord. Don't make your move too quickly. Jesus always has a time table for everything. Your patience will be rewarded and remember, patience is not a virtue of our adversary." He was appreciative of the advice. Later the Lord used those very words to remind me to wait. Ecclesiastes 3:1 says, "There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under heaven." Psalm 27:13-14 says: "I am confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord."

We must learn to FIX our eyes on the Lord. We have been looking at the scripture in Ephesians 1:18 that encourages us to pray that the eyes of our heart be enlightened. We also need to learn to wait and not give up. Our spiritual eyes need to stay fixed on the Lord. Trials can cause us to lose our focus. We have a tendency to let fear speak louder than truth.

I was reading a report about a woman who was out on her balcony in lower Manhattan when the World Trade Centers collapsed. She couldn't believe her eyes so she went inside and turned on the TV to see if what she saw was true. I guess that meant that she put more stock in the TV than actuality. I think that is how we need to be with God's word. We need to interpret all of life through it. When you see or hear something, go to the word of God and see if that is true. If the Word says it, you can count on it. Wait and it will come about!

Take a little time and read 2 Corinthians 2:13-18. What does this mean to you?