

SEND ME

June 25, 2017 | Pastor Keith Jenkins

During our current study, many have communicated how impacted they have been by the Holy Spirit. Daniel has challenged us to live a Godly life in the midst of an evil culture. But its more than that, God wants us to see the “gap” between what is God’s will and purpose and what we see going on around us; then to be those who will stand in the gap and intercede. How sad to think that God was searching for someone to do this, but found no one:

“So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one”. Ezekiel 22:30

“So what would happen if we became intercessors and not accusers; the truth of the matter is you can’t be both”. In reality we are taking our stand “between the living & the dead”

We are going to be drawn into the gap, but also God’s presence, because:

“When you kneel before God, you can stand before men”....which Daniel did!

So we are drawn to gather together to be equipped for His purpose and be sent. Let’s look at the prophet Isaiah and the call, response and commissioning:

“In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple. Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one cried to another and said: “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!” And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke. So I said: “Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, The Lord of hosts.” Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal which he had taken with the tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth with it, and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; Your iniquity is taken away, And your sin purged.” Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: “Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.” Isaiah 6:1-8

The Revelation of God Recedes the Revelation of Self.

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In this spiritual vision, as with any revelation, we see things that can’t be seen in the natural. It is to reveal what was before hidden. It’s like opening a curtain or a door and seeing what is behind it. But with all revelations of God, there also comes a revelation of ourselves. Isaiah recognizes this and God cleanses him.

1. WE ARE ENDOWED WITH “POWER & AUTHORITY”

Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name.” And He said to them, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven. Luke 10:17-20

“Authority: “Exousia”—the power, ability, capability, or right to complete an action

The disciples that Jesus chose and left with the responsibility to “disciple all nations”, were described as; “unlearned and untrained”. Most of us think, are you calling “me”? Remember, we’ve been endowed with authority and with the power of the Holy Spirit.

The first step is to pray and hear His voice. For many of us, we will hear voices like “who do you think you are?”, or “you’re not qualified”, maybe “you’ll mess this up, somebody else should do it”. These are voices of the evil one, or our own flesh and insecurities.

God is a God who calls, equips, empowers and sends! You are deputized; go out in power and confidence.

2. GENUINE FAITH....IS EXPRESSED IN DEEDS, NOT JUST WORDS

What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, and one of you says to them, “Depart in peace, be warmed and filled,” but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. James 2:14-17

“Start with peoples perceived needs and they will give you permission to address their ultimate need of God’s love and a Savior” (Jack Hayford)

Genuine faith is many times proclaimed in deeds. Many times God calls us to meet people’s tangible needs; then they have a chance to “taste and see that the Lord is good”.

God sent His son and He continues to send His sons and daughters. He died once and for all; now we are sent to share that love and redemption with a hurting world.

Let Him disrupt your life with His assignments. Don’t miss those divine moments that God has purposed for you.

3. THE UNLEARNED & UNTRAINED....(FEEL UNQUALIFIED)

Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus. Acts 4:13

Pastor Keith told the story of a piano concert. The crowd was dressed up anticipating the entrance of this skilled well known concert pianist. As the houselights went down, a young boy ran across the stage, ignoring the audience, went straight for the piano and started playing chopsticks. The stage manager was in a panic, as were the parents of the child who sitting on the front row. The pianist, calmly walked out on the stage, wrapped his arms around the back of the boy, and played along with him. The two of them made a beautiful melody together.

The Holy Spirit will come around you, while you play “chopsticks”. All He wants is for us is to get in the game, don’t worry about your abilities, just play chopsticks.

“The qualifying is spending time with Jesus”

4. WE ARE “KINGDOM CURRENCY” TO BE INVESTED AS HE WILLS

Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: “Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.” Isaiah 6:8

We can live and spend our entire lives spending it on things that we want to do. But God challenges us; “Don’t spend your life, invest your life”

- Our lives are either spent or invested (there is an eternal return)
- God is always SENDING...first Jesus, disciples/apostles, the church and yes even US
- We get introduced & discover who God called us to be before birth

"The more we get what we now call 'ourselves' out of the way and let Him take us over, the more truly ourselves we become." – C.S. Lewis

- You are already going. Now be watchful and listen.
- You will see the gaps.
- You will hear their pain/suffering.
- Listen for instructions. Wait for orders (some we already have.)

"Whatever you have is enough"

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. On page one of your notes Pastor Keith alluded to the fact that "we are going to be drawn into the gap, but also God's presence". What does this mean to you and how are the two connected? What have been some "gaps" you have or are being called into?
2. As we read this powerful passage in Isaiah 6:1-8, (Pages 1 & 2) what were some of things that stuck out to you? As we specifically focus in on Isaiah's response to this revelation of God, what did it speak to you and have you ever experienced anything similar in your walk?
3. Concerning point 1, "we are empowered with power and authority", what did we see about "authority", "Exousia"? What do we see about those Jesus sent out originally and how did they accomplish this mission? What resistance will you experience and what has God made available, so we will accomplish his purpose and will?
4. Our second point challenges us that: "Genuine faith is deeds, not just words". Please discuss this truth as found on page three. Also what does this quote say to you; "Start with peoples perceived needs and they will give you permission to address their ultimate need of God's love and a Savior"? (Disclaimer, not a direct quote but very close)
5. On pages 3 and 4 in your notes, maybe, like me, you identify with this one; "The unlearned and untrained, feeling disqualified". Did you identify with the "chopsticks" story that Pastor Keith told? If so, how? Also, what does this statement say to you? "The qualifying, is spending time with Jesus"
6. Lastly, an important element in all of this, is my life being spent on various things, or is my life "kingdom currency". What does this speak to you, and how do we get "ourselves out of the way" and let him take over?