

NOTHING AND EVERYTHING

As we begin to settle into the new year and the new decade, the Lord has been speaking that this is a year of “action faith” and “active faith.” The root of both adjectives is “act”: doing, moving, carrying out, accomplishing, and executing. God is ready to move through His people the same way He did in the days of the apostles, as told in the book of **Acts**.

This is a time to reap some of what you’ve been sowing. I believe that God is moving in such a way that He is placing His people into positions of authority, blessing, and access to bring glory to His name. God is “in the business of winning souls”; not only does He bless because He loves you and wants the best for you, but also, He sees that the light of the glory of God shining through you better empowers you to witness the gospel of Jesus Christ to someone else. He is elevating and imbuing and blessing and nourishing and providing and pouring out upon His children to draw this world closer to Him.

If we want to be a part of this move of God, we must trust Him with an absolute faith. Importantly, **we cannot allow pragmatism to hinder our faith**. As we journey through life, we pick up bits of wisdom and experience from the way we’ve seen God move before, but also, hurts and disappointments from the ways we’ve seen Him *not* move. However, we can’t let previous disappointments prevent us from trusting that God still is moving, and wants us to yield our lives to Him. Believe that God still wants to move in your situation!

John 15:4-5

If we want to join in on this season of active faith, we must take to heart Jesus’s words: without me, you can do nothing. We must remember that we are wholly and totally dependent upon God: He is the source, and we are not.

In some ways, we have shortchanged God, forgetting just how powerful He is, and forgetting that we are nothing without Him. When we incorrectly identify who God is, we also incorrectly identify who we are, for we are made in His image. Why do we do this?

- **Routines**: sometimes we are so set in our previous ways that we don’t allow God to do anything outside our status quo.
- **Fitting In**: sometimes we are afraid of standing out in faith, so we misidentify who God is so we can be comfortable in the world around us.
- **Our Technology and Devices**

Luke 18:18-30

Like the rich ruler, whose great riches were a barrier to him entering the kingdom of God, the great wealth of information we have access to can make us feel like we don’t really need God. We should prioritize God above our devices. We’re not meant to live this life on our own strength and wisdom: we need God!

Be encouraged: without God, we can do nothing, but with Him, nothing is impossible. God doesn’t need to make the test or trying situation easier; He can just make us stronger. God is so much more powerful than the enemy, the world, and our flesh, that if we place our faith in Him, there is nothing we will not be able to accomplish, according to His perfect will.

Let us close with three points:

1. Without God, you can do nothing, but with God, you can do all things.
2. Without God, you can do nothing, but with God, you can do all things.
3. **Without God, you can do nothing, but with God, you can do *all things*!**