

DRAW NIGH TO GOD, HE NEEDS YOU.

1/12/13

Even though God has unlimited power and ability, he has chosen to use people to accomplish his plans. When Jesus was preparing to enter Jerusalem, he told a man he needed his donkey (Mat 22:3)... when he approached the well at Samaria, he told the woman he needed a drink (Joh 4:7). On both of these occasions he could have called upon God or he could have helped himself, but he chose to use the willingness of others to serve his purposes, thus multiplying the available blessing. The parable of the sheep and goats takes this principle one step further. God has actually built his salvation plan around the willingness of others to help him out. This concept is so powerful, that God takes it personally and miraculously responds to those who do his will (there is no way to help God other than helping others). Alternatively, those who won't assist others (refusing to help God), will find themselves on the wrong side of their creator... not the best choice to make.

God's first and preferred choice for spiritual revelation results from human to human interaction.

1COR 1:21 For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. God has chosen preaching as his primary method of communicating with the human race... both to the unsaved and saved, alike. That is why God needs you.

Paul also refreshed the minds of the church at Rome of why God needed them.

ROM 10:13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. **14** How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? **15** And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! God relies on everyone in the church to do their bit to support his cause.

The use of the voice gifts was the topic of another appeal by God to get men and women more involved in church growth. 1COR 14:3 But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort. These verses are very similar to the last verse above. The Lord is requesting that people should be trained to use and trust in the miracle working power of God... both the user and the hearer.

Lift up your eyes... look upwards (Gods blessings are not found in natural aspirations). A change of focus is required. JOH 4:35 Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes (then), and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. If you open your eyes to Godliness, you will see things that are not naturally observable. Likewise, our witnessing does this with the unsaved... they are taught how to draw close to God. The harvest includes much more than bringing in the crop. It needs to be sorted from the chaff and safely stored. Many overlook the fact that the harvest is entirely pointless if the grain is allowed to spoil or be lost later. This all takes manpower... wisdom and knowledge.

See also... **MAT 9:37** Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few (I need a lot more help than what I am getting); **38** Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest. The least we can do is to work in with God and give him the chance to bless us with more helpers... pray for willing workers (another reason God needs you).

God inspired Daniel to serve him by giving him a vision based on his humble approach...

DAN 10:12 Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words. This is an amazing revelation of the simplicity of how to draw nigh to God. Knowing and agreeing with God alone, is not enough. Make up your mind and put some of your time before the Lord as an offering... ask him to use you as well. We also become inspirational by sharing the vision that God has given us, through our servitude to others... they can be motivated to imitate those aspects that work.

What are you waiting for?

JAM 4:8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. How do you draw nigh?... through setting your heart on Godly principles and exercising them on those who come within range of your opportunities. This means that we are consistently calling upon the Lord... the very fountain of our blessing and joy. Why? Because, God needs you more than any other time in the history of mankind. Remember, he takes it personally!!