



Being with Jesus:

A Devotional From the Book of Mark

Week 1
Being With God

Day 5

Scripture

“And he appointed twelve (whom he also named apostles) so that they might be with him and he might send them out to preach.” — Mark 3:14

“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.” — 1 Peter 4:10

Prayer:

Jesus, help me to take the appointment You give me seriously. Help me to know what my gifts are and to know when and where to use them. I pray that I use them well so that I can find fulfillment in my work, others will be blessed by it, and You will be glorified through it. Amen.

Reflection

God gives each of us gifts, talents, and assignments. Every person has something useful only they can do. We are all uniquely gifted to fulfill God’s calling on our lives. Jesus appointed the twelve to be His disciples. All of them were different, but they were all called to follow Him.

Using our gifts for God will look different for each individual. Some people are gifted in singing. Some are gifted in business. Some people are teachers, lawyers, artists, athletes (the list could go on and on). Have you ever shined a flashlight through a piece of glass that was multicolored? When you do, the light reflects the colors on the other side. The idea in 1 Peter 4:10 is similar. God pours out his grace on his people, and then through them that grace flows into the world in many different kinds of service: houses get built, lessons are taught, hungry people are fed.

When we let God’s grace flow through us to others, we find fulfillment in it, those around us are blessed by it, and God is glorified through it. By serving others in Jesus’ name, we find joy and make the world a better place.

There are many ways that God helps us find our gifting. We have certain passions, talents, and opportunities. God may show us a need in the world that we think we can help fill. If you’re interested in finding out more about your gifting, ask your pastor. He might already see something in you or know of a place where you can take a spiritual gifts test.

Questions

Do you know what you’re good at?

When God’s grace flows through you, what kind of gifts and talents come out?

Have you ever found joy in using your talents to help someone?