FOR WE ARE GOD'S MASTERPIECE. HE HAS CREATED US ANEW IN CHRIST JESUS, SO WE CAN DO THE GOOD THINGS HE PLANNED FOR US LONG AGO. EPHESIANS 2:10

ACTIVATE YOUR CALLING

JESUS'S CALLING ACTIVATED

The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work. I John. 3:8

So ... the devil sought to destroy the Son of God's work!

How do I know what I'm called to do? For starters ...

- Where have you encountered the most opposition and spiritual warfare throughout your life?
- What do you want to do destroy? AKA: What breaks your heart?
- In what ways has God shown special comfort to you?

A MASTERPIECE PREPARED IN ADVANCE...

- God the Father gives us talents.
- Jesus gives us assignments.
- The Holy Spirit gives us spiritual gifts.

Jesus's calling activated: AKA, it was time.

- 30 years old. Had He been useless until then?
- Your life makes a difference every day to God, your family and those around you!

Jesus's activation begins with an act of great humility – baptized by John.

- Insecurity is not humility; knowing my identity in Christ brings humility.
- Self confidence? God confidence!

ACTIVATE YOUR CALLING: LEARNING FROM JESUS

The Father affirms (miracle moment):"This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." Matthew 3:17

God loves us APART from us DOING the good things He planned in advance for us to do.

... May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and <u>that you love them as much as you love me</u>. John 17:23

God loves me no matter what. What's it take for Him to be well pleased with me? "I'm well pleased with those who are well pleased with Me."

ACTIVATE YOUR CALLING:

LEARNING FROM JESUS

The Father affirms (miracle moment): **This is my Son**, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Matthew 3:17...

Then Jesus was <u>led by the Spirit</u> into the <u>desert</u> to be tempted by the devil.

Matthew 4:1

When we step into our calling, we expect God to pour out profuse blessings on our obedience, BUT if we're going to live out our calling, we're going to:

- Experience consecration and holiness "Come out from them and be separate, says the Lord.Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you." I Cor. 6:17
- Have to depend on God alone to get us through.
- Have to face the enemy our souls: wounds, insecurities, accusations, fears, etc.

ACTIVATE YOUR CALLING: LEARNING FROM JESUS

After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. The tempter came to him and said, "<u>If</u> you're the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread. Matthew 4:2&3

Beware of Satan's "if's."

Satan ALWAYS goes after our identity.

Temptation:

- Look to yourself to meet your own needs and make your own provision.
- Prove yourself.

Jesus <u>answered</u>, "It is written, 'Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Matthew 4:4

Not just quoting scripture – He was LIVING it!

Are you living on bread alone or by what God is speaking to you daily?

Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written: 'He will command His angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'" Matthew 4:5&6

Temptation: Spiritualize the expectation for God to conform to your will.

ACTIVATE YOUR CALLING:

LEARNING FROM JESUS

ACTIVATE OUR CALLING: LEARNING FROM JESUS

Jesus answered him, "It is also written, 'Do not put God to the test.'" Matthew 4:7

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me." Matthew 4:8&9

Modern Translation:

"The devil took her to the Woodlands Mall and showed her all the Prada purses, Pottery Barn Furniture and comforts of suburbia and said,"All this I will give to you if you serve me instead of doing what God called you to do."

What's your price?

ACTIVATE OUR CALLING:

LEARNING FROM JESUS

Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only." Then the devil left him, and <u>angels came and</u> <u>attended to him</u>. Matthew 4:10&11

When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time. Jesus returned to Galilee in the <u>power of the Spirit</u>, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. Luke 4:13&14

What's on the other side of all this inner turmoil, overcoming fear and accusation, etc.?

So do not throw away this CONFIDENT TRUST in the Lord. Remember the great reward it brings you! Hebrews 10:35 FOR WE ARE GOD'S MASTERPIECE. HE HAS CREATED US ANEW IN CHRIST JESUS, SO WE CAN DO THE GOOD THINGS HE PLANNED FOR US LONG AGO.

EPHESIANS 2:10