

Devotional Thoughts :: A DIVINE APPOINTMENT by Nicky Cruz

A DIVINE APPOINTMENT by Nicky Cruz - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2016/11/19 7:15

In the eighth chapter of Acts, an angel of the Lord told Philip to stop what he was doing and start out toward the road between Jerusalem and Gaza. At the time, Philip was busy preaching and healing in Samaria. The Lord gave Philip no explanation, and he had no idea why he was being sent. Yet he obeyed.

PROFITABLE DETOUR

While traveling down this road, Philip was passed by a chariot and the Holy Spirit told him to stay near it. When he caught up to the chariot, he heard a man inside reading from Isaiah the prophet. The man, a eunuch from Ethiopia, was an important official of the queen. Immediately Philip understood why the Spirit had led him to this place in the middle of nowhere. He was able to witness to the eunuch and bring him to Christ (Acts 8:26-35).

Had Philip not been listening to the Spirit's leading, or had he chosen not to heed His direction (or worse yet, failed to acknowledge that the Spirit actually speaks to us), he would have missed out on this divine appointment.

UNDERSTANDING GOD'S AUTHORITY

The truth is, had Philip stayed in Samaria preaching, he probably would have reached many more for Christ during this period of time. Instead, God diverted him for the sake of one soul. It would have been easy for Philip to question this mandate, to second-guess God's wisdom in leading him away during a successful and busy time in his outreach, but he didn't. Philip understood God's authority and knew better than to question His ways.

THE VALUE OF LISTENING

What does it mean to trust God and walk in the Spirit? Jesus offers us a perfect description:

“The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with every one born of the Spirit” (John 3:8).

When and where God leads may not always make sense to us. But a true disciple learns to listen and obey, regardless of his or her own opinions or agenda at the moment.

Re: A DIVINE APPOINTMENT by Nicky Cruz - posted by leyoung (), on: 2016/11/19 8:20

Amen, brother Greg. This is the true obedience of a believer, one who trusts the still small Voice who often leads us to one seeker. This also builds up our trust in God who often bypasses our intellect and reason.

Always good to be reminded of this in our ever increasing world of voices and intelligence and machines tempting us to bypass His Voice. It grows harder and harder to shut out all these worldly voices. May the Lord revive true and undefiled vessels here and in other lands as well, that the gospel may be heard, that men and women believe in you, receive the forgiveness of sins and receive your Holy Spirit, come quickly, Lord Jesus, so that we do not fall away in this wicked time.

Sis Les

Re: A DIVINE APPOINTMENT by Nicky Cruz - posted by leyoung (), on: 2016/11/19 8:20

Double post

Re: A DIVINE APPOINTMENT by Nicky Cruz, on: 2016/11/19 9:30

((Quote:THE VALUE OF LISTENING

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Thank you Brother

Re: - posted by StirltUp (), on: 2016/11/19 12:26

Another perspective from Oswald Chambers: " If we are born of God we will see His guiding hand and give Him the credit.

We can all see God in exceptional things, but it requires the growth of spiritual discipline to see God in every detail. Never believe that the so-called random events of life are anything less than God’s appointed order. Be ready to discover His divine designs anywhere and everywhere."