

**Articles and Sermons :: Fear of God by K.P. Yohannan**

**Fear of God by K.P. Yohannan - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2010/10/24 18:17**

Think about the apostle Paul after he met Jesus on the road to Damascus. Most believers did not want to have anything to do with him. "He's dangerous," they believed (see Acts 9:21, 26). But then you see Barnabas enter the scene, put his arm around Paul and vouch for his integrity to the early church (Acts 9:27). And Paul, who had once worked tirelessly to persecute believers in Jesus and eradicate all traces of Christianity, becomes totally transformed into one of the greatest apostles who ever lived. How did this happen? Not all in one day, but in a process that took time, starting with 14 years out in the wilderness.

In our early days, when we thought about recruiting staff members, we had no application form or interview process. I'll never forget the day when one couple just showed up on our doorstep with their little baby in their arms, ready to serve God with us. I never even thought to ask him for references! It was all so fresh and amazing.

You'll find that same wonder, awe and fear of God in the beginnings of any organization. God just brings people—no forms to be filled out—He works in their lives and changes them, and then uses them to change others. It is a continuous, perpetual motion in which somehow things just keep happening. Nobody stops to think about how! You see, God is always more concerned about people than about what they can do. And if we follow Him, He will make sure that we keep this in mind. God's approach is always from the inside out (Luke 11:39-40; Psalm 51:6). Character is the important thing. If this is taken care of, the rest will follow.

Jesus' only requirement for those who wanted to be His disciples was that they obey and follow (Matthew 16:24). He did not ask about anything else. He knew, like a potter, that if the clay would submit, He could mold and transform it to become the most precious vessel to be used for His kingdom.