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Maximising The Season Of Preparation



Dear Friend

Ecclesiastes 8:5 AMP says "Whoever keeps and observes a royal command will experience neither trouble nor misery; For a wise heart will know the proper time and [appropriate] procedure". The Journey towards our destiny requires us to learn not only the proper timing to embark on any venture but also the appropriate procedures (discipline) to attain success. Here are 3 important disciplines:

1. Patience through preparation is key.

Hebrews 12:1 KJV says "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us"

We need to run our own race with patience. Patience means having steady endurance. Learning how to pace ourselves is vital for us to finish our race strong.

Seasons of patience = seasons of preparation.

There will be seasons of preparation in your life. Maximise these seasons. How do you do this? You do this by learning everything you need to learn and applying these lessons in your life. You cannot short-circuit the season of preparation, you just go through it. Beloved, you cannot drift to the top unprepared.

Jeremiah 52:31-34 AMPC "And in the thirty-seventh year of the captivity of Jehoiachin [also called Coniah and Jeconiah] king of Judah, in the twelfth month, on the twenty-fifth day of the month, Evil-merodach king of Babylon in the first year of his reign lifted up the head of Jehoiachin king of Judah [and showed favor to him] and brought him out of prison. He spoke kindly to him and gave him a seat above the seats of the kings who were [captives] with him in Babylon, Jehoiachin put off his prison garments, and he dined regularly at the king's table all the days of his life. And his allowance, a continual one, was given him by the king of Babylon, a portion according to his requirements until the day of his death, [d]all the days of his life" Jehoiachin was in prison for 37 years before he was lifted up and shown favour. The name Jehoiachin means "preparation,". During those 37 years in prison, he was preparing. He was keeping his heart in the right place and his mind active. During those years he never gave up, but continually prepared himself for the next step of eventually being lifted up.

2. Cooperate with the favour of God.

Genesis 39:4 KJV "And Joseph found grace in his sight, and he served him: and he made him overseer over his house, and all that he had he put into his hand" The spirit of favour is attracted to a heart of service. Serving gives you access! **Col 3:23-24 AMP** says "Whatever you do [whatever your task may be], work from the soul [that is, put in your very best effort], as [something done] for the Lord and not for men, knowing [with all certainty] that it is from the Lord [not from men] that you will receive the inheritance which is your [greatest] reward. It is the Lord Christ whom you [actually] serve"

3. Faithfulness releases promotion

Matthew 25:19-21 says, "After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them. "So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, 'Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.' His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'" This passage of scripture is an excerpt from the Parable of the Talents in which Jesus makes plain the relationship between faithfulness and promotion. A talent in this scripture represents an opportunity. Faithfulness is the key to promotion and increased influence in the Kingdom. What we learn from the passage of scripture is that the servant who had been given five talents was given influence over many things because he had been faithful with the five talents over a long time. For one to be given increased influence, one must show themselves to be faithful over a long period of time. This is a very difficult lesson to accept in this microwave generation of quick results but it is the Kingdom way. The Greek word for faithfulness is *pistos*, which can be translated as trustworthy, dependable, consistent, loyal and constant.

Beloved, these are the qualities that God looks for when looking for someone to promote.

With love,

Pastors Tafara & Chipo Butayi

Faith Hill Church

Faith Hill is a multicultural, family friendly church where all people from all backgrounds are welcome. Our church is led by our Senior Pastors, Tafara and Chipo Butayi. Both of whom are passionate about the Word of God and seeing lives being transformed.



Prayer for today's devotion

Dear Father,

I thank You for Your unmerited favour that You have bestowed upon our lives. I thank You Lord, that I am not trying to obtain Your favour but I already have Your favour. All I have to do is receive Your favour through faith.
(Psalm 5:12)

Lord Jesus, I thank You for giving me the empowering knowledge of the favour that I have through You. My heart is filled with joy as I am convinced that I walk in preferential treatment and with an added advantage.

Your favour causes me to prosper greatly in all the areas of my life. There is peace in my family and it is prospering greatly because of Your favour. My wealth and influence is increasing because of Your favour.
(Genesis 24:34-36)

I believe that I will prosper regardless of the circumstance that I find myself in. No matter what manner of challenges that may come my way I will trust in the goodness that I will see because of Your favour. I will look to You only in times of need because I know that I obtain favour with men when I obtain favour with You.
(2 Chronicles 16v7-9)

*In Jesus' name I pray,
Amen*

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