

I'M WAITING FOR A SIGN



"I know God wants me to do something big.

And I'm prepared.

All I need is a sign from God, and I'll be right there bringing souls from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God."

Waiting for a sign? My Friend, you are going to wait forever.

The Lord of the Vineyard has been there five times hiring laborers and you keep sitting under that tree waiting for a sign.

You wouldn't recognize a sign if it hit you on the head!

You don't need a sign.

You need to open your eyes and see the work God already put in front of your nose.

It's not a "great work".



It's lowly stuff.

But that's where the power of the Kingdom is always found.

Doing lowly stuff.

That guy who calls you on the phone and wants to unload his complaints and you keep brushing him off.

He was sent to you by the Lord himself.

That boring cousin over in the nursing home, sitting there all day with nothing to do.

There is no work greater than paying her a visit.

Our obsession with greatness.

Naaman the leper, the Syrian general who came to Israel to be healed, was told by the prophet to wash in the Jordan seven times.

Naaman was insulted, and rode off in a huff.

"Why should I wash in the crummy Jordan, when there are better rivers in Syria?"

"My father, if the prophet had commanded you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much rather, then, when he says to you, 'Wash, and be clean'?"

II Kings 5

Even Jesus' disciples were caught up in the pursuit of "greatness". Whenever Jesus told them he was on his way to suffering and a cross, they would start arguing about who was the greatest among them.

But Jesus called them to him and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them.

It shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave; even as the Son of man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Matthew 20

The Vineyard at our doorstep.



We're so busy talking about evangelizing the world that we fail to see the Vineyard that surrounds us right where we are.

We do not need a sign to move us...

... to pray for people God sends across our path.

...to be there for wounded souls who bump into us in a thousand ways.

...to have a sustaining word for those who are weary. (Isaiah 50)

...to provide a listening ear for folks who have no one to unload to.

...to share of our means with folks in need----near and far.

...to encourage a stumbling brother or sister.

...to track down a lost sheep that the Spirit has put on our heart again and again.

The most effective servants of the Kingdom are not the Christian celebrities.

They are the ones whom nobody sees but God, as they quietly move among the forgotten ones of this earth.



May we be found among them!

Prayer: Yes Lord may we be found among those who hear your prompting to care for the forgotten ones who cross our paths. And Lord if we are seeking greatness and are turning ourselves away from obscure service... prod us, pester us... stir up compassion within us. Give us the vision to see that you are with us as we give a listening ear, take time to encourage, extend a hand, pray for and seek out the forgotten. May the sign we seek be our hearts burning with life as we serve and remember the unrememberable ones of this world. MM

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THE LAMB
WHO WAS SLAIN
HAS BEGUN HIS REIGN

