

Devotionals for 21 Day Fast

OWN THE PURSUIT

DAY 4: Wednesday, January 19th—*Skin in the Game*

Pursuing God Brings Revelation

Elijah, in 2 Kings 2: 9, asked Elisha to let him know what he could do for him before he was taken from him. Elisha replied that he would like to inherit a double portion of his spirit. Elisha was not jealous of Elijah. He was not seeking to do miracles like him, and he really had no desire to clone him. He wanted something much, much deeper. He was in pursuit of God!

In pursuing God, Elisha could not be complacent and sedentary. He had to keep moving! He kept following Elijah who told him three times not to do so (vs 2, 4, 6).

It is significant to note that Elijah went to Bethel, Jericho, and Jordon because God had told him to. Elisha must have felt he had skin in the game! He was not going to be left out of what God was going to do!

But Elisha felt there was also a time to be still. The Sons of the Prophets who had gathered at Bethel and Jericho asked Elisha if he knew that the Lord would take away his master that day and both times he answered, "Yes, I know, so be quiet" (vs 3 & 5, NIV). The Sons of the Prophets wanted to focus on the mundane and were prompting Elisha to focus on himself; about how he felt. He could possibly have gotten anxious, bemoaning Elijah's imminent departure. But he would have none of that! He was focused on God. Nothing else!

Pursuing God Brings Revelation

Getting a double portion of Elijah's spirit meant that Elisha would be able to see more of God's glory; his magnificence, his awesome power. And he did! He saw the manifestation of the armed angels of God (the defenders of God's children who are described in Psalm 34: 7 as encamping round about those who fear God) serving as Elijah's guard of honor as they took him home. And we know Elisha had that experience again when the king of Aram was trying to capture him. Elisha saw that the hills were full of horses and chariots of fire (2 Kings 6:17), sent by God to rescue him.

As we pursue God, we too will see His power in our lives. We will see His glory as He empowers us to fulfill His purposes. But we must be disciplined and steadfast in our pursuit. We need to take the necessary actions that are part of the process. This includes spending time in prayer and meditation and reading God's Word. It may mean active involvement in church services and activities and acts of ministry. But there are times we must also be quiet as we listen to the Lord. It certainly means staying focused; not becoming preoccupied with what we want and with our feelings about situations. And we must not give way to distractors and distractions.

Reflection

The person who seeks after God develops a balanced perspective about life and reflects stability and grace and strength in crises

24 The Lord is good to those who wait for Him, to the soul who seeks Him. It is good that one should hope and wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord
Lamentation 3: 25 – 26 (NKJV).

**Submitted by
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LIFE APPLICATION

**IT TEACHES US TO BECOME
WHO WE ARE IN CHRIST**

"To have skin in the game"

Is to have a personal investment of time, money, interest or concern in the pursuit of a goal or achievement

- Sow your seed (Discover, Develop, Defend, and Deploy)
- "Don't feel like", is not an option
- Use your brain, creativity, imagination
- Honor where you are with your best effort
- Be present in the moment
- Tailor life to the things that are necessary
- Know your rhythm

Devotional Text

Lamentations 3:23-25
2Kings 2:1-15, 6:17
Psalms 34:7

AS GOD IS EXALTED
TO THE RIGHT PLACE
in our lives
A THOUSAND PROBLEMS
ARE SOLVED
all at once
A W TOZER