

Bible Study: Do whatever Jesus tells you to do

You will get more out of this study if you read the verses and ponder the questions several times a day. You'll also get more out of the study if you discuss it with others. Jesus says where two or three are gathered together in his name, he is there with them.

Monday Proverbs 3:5-10 (NRSV)

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight.
In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.
Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD, and turn away from evil.
It will be a healing for your flesh and a refreshment for your body.
Honor the LORD with your substance and with the first fruits of all your produce;
then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.

What does Proverbs say will be the cause of "your vats bursting with wine"?

Do you do this?

Tuesday Psalm 104:10-15 (NRSV)

You make springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the hills,
giving drink to every wild animal; the wild asses quench their thirst.
By the streams the birds of the air have their habitation; they sing among the branches.
From your lofty abode you water the mountains; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work.
You cause the grass to grow for the cattle,
and plants for people to use, to bring forth food from the earth,
and wine to gladden the human heart, oil to make the face shine,
and bread to strengthen the human heart.

What do you have to praise God for today?

Wednesday John 2:1-5 (NRSV)

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there.
Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

Mary's command to the servants is good advice to us. Do whatever Jesus tells you. Jesus said it wasn't his time to act, but he acted because of Mary's faith and expectation.

What have you noticed that needs Jesus' help?

Thursday John 2:6-10 (NRSV)

Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim.
He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now."

When Jesus supplies, he often provides great things in abundance.

What have you seen Jesus supply in your life?

What are some situations that need Jesus?

Since the church is the body of Christ in the world, how will Jesus be prompted to action today?

Friday

Mary told the servants to do whatever Jesus told them to do. It resulted in a miracle. Maybe something great will happen if you do what Jesus tells you to do! (It wouldn't hurt to try!) Three things Jesus told everyone to do (everyone includes you!):

** Love God with everything you've got. * Love yourself * Love those you see in need*

How will you do that? When will you start?

Some ways Jesus taught his followers to love those in need (you're one of his followers!):

Announce good news to the poor

Heal the sick

Cleanse the lepers

Cast out demons

Raise the dead

Which of these are you already good at? Which do you need more practice at?

How will you get more practice?

Saturday

Besides the things Jesus told everyone to do, Jesus may have spoken to you about things that you specifically should do. To recognize whether words are from Jesus or not requires getting to know his voice. His tone is peaceful, loving, joyful, patient, kind. By way of contrast, the devil's tone is accusatory, anxiety-inducing, fear-inducing, and (sometime) slimy.

It's helpful to recognize Jesus' voice, because what Jesus says will often be surprising and what the devil says will often seem reasonable or enticing. You can't tell by content whether an idea is from God or not (unless it's sin – the Bible clearly says God tempts no one, so if you're being tempted to sin, it's either your own idea or the devil's. In either of these cases, it's not good for you.)

What are some things you think God or Jesus has said to you? (What wishes/ ideas keep coming to you?) (What are you afraid to do that you know is a good idea?)

Have you taken action on these?

If you don't know what specifically you should do, ask yourself:

**What are your talents, abilities and spiritual gifts?*

**What are your interests? (What brings a smile to your face?)*

** What are your responsibilities?*

Take action at the intersection of these.

What are you already doing that fits you well?

What are you not doing yet that you would like to start?

When will you start?

What will you cut so there's time for your best?

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