

Staying the Course

While spending quiet time with the Lord he dropped Staying the Course in my spirit as well as No Need for Speed. Right away I could relate to both topics because of the recent distractions and my attempt to get things done or move from here to there right way. We all have distractions and we all at some point try to speed up a process or get from point A to point B in a hurry.

It's important that we realize that there is a chosen path for each of us. At times we may interact and head in the same direction BUT keep in mind that there will also be times where we depart and separate to go in different directions. In the midst of our journey we will encounter all types of people, situations, circumstances, trials, heartaches, pains and triumphs, battles and victories as well as be surrounded by people for obvious and not so obvious reasons whether good or bad, to encourage, build up or tear down, nevertheless we must remember to stay the course!

You will have people around you talking and doing everything except the very thing that is beneficial to your spiritual growth. It's important that in times like this we Shut out the Chatter, sit in silence, pray to God, Seek God, and praise and worship God....basically whatever it takes to hear clearly from the master and stay the course.

My prayer recently was Lord help me stay the course! I know you have me! Lord if you feel me slipping or if you see me falling behind, slowing down, please strengthen me. If you notice that I've become complacent or stagnate please strengthen me, wake me, nudge me and most of all lead me and help me stay the course!

It's in those quiet moments with God He gives us instructions and directions. Recently I had become so busy with helping different organizations, attending meetings, catering to family and having a love life that I got distracted and began spending less time in God's presence. Simply put, I put others before God. God needed me to be still so He could make a deposit in me. There were some things He needed me to do and it required me hearing directly from Him.

On this journey called life, there will be people, situations and things that come to test you, your faith and your loyalty to God, man and self. There are many people in the bible days as well as today who have chosen to stay the course, meaning their loyalty to God and the plan and purpose He has for their life is more important than anything even if it meant hardship, people gossiping, family turning their back on them, prison and even death. Don't worry! Just like those bible greats of days gone by you will make mistakes, face trials, betrayal, and financial hardships, and lose family and friends along the way. The key is to accept it, even the things you can't change, admit your mistakes, repent, forgive, pray, trust and believe God and keep moving forward. Even if and when things are not going your way, even when you want to give up, even when family and friends are no longer around, even when you're down to your last dime, even when no one answers your call, puts money on your book, stay the course and don't give up.

Act. 20: 22-24 – Paul says “And now, compelled by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there. I only know that in every city the Holy Spirit warns me that prison and hardships are facing me. However, I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me – the task of testifying to the gospel of God’s grace.

Romans 8:37-39 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2Timothy 4:7 – Paul says I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race. I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge.

I know that you can stay the course, that you can keep moving forward, that you can accomplish everything God had called and equipped you to do and here’s why, Philippians 4:13 says, I can do ALL things through Jesus Christ who strengthens me. Philippians 4:19 says, My God shall supply all my needs according to His riches in glory through His son Christ Jesus. Whatever you need to stay the course can easily be supplied; all you have to do is ask. The choice is yours! Will you stay the course?