

What's In Your Hands? Gen. 12:1-4; Ezra 7:6-10; Ps. 119:25-32; Ezra 7:10

Look at your hands. If you believe that Jesus Christ speaks, then ask him what is in your hands.

We don't know each other's stories. We don't communicate them, yet we expect people to treat us as though they know them. We need to communicate our expectations.

Every born again believer who is growing in their relationship with Jesus Christ needs to be more than a Sunday morning only Christian. You need to be a participating child of God. You need to have three places or events in your life- **a place where you receive ministry, a place where you are trained for ministry, and a place where you are actually doing ministry.** If you want to grow in your faith and be used of God you need to find these places.

Maybe you've been a Christian for many years and you just need to recommit yourself to service for the King. **James 2:18**

Ask the Lord, "where, within the body of Christ, and on a regular basis, am I receiving ministry, where am I being trained for ministry and where am I doing ministry?"

Employment for the King is not seasonally based so within your church where are these three areas located for you? The church is God's idea, His gift to us, and we need to be more effective. The church is not here for our enjoyment, though there is joy in the body of Christ. We are here to enlarge the church. Each of us is grafted in, we are not being the church alone.

Some of us believe that there is nothing else to do once we say the sinner's prayer.

There is much more! We need to add to our faith **1 Peter 1:5-10.**

Hurting people hurt people. That's true in the world and unfortunately it's true in the church. We want hurting people to come in here and find healing but we are hurting and hurting each other, with our attitudes, our thoughts, our bitterness, our anger... so what's in your hands, unforgiveness, bitterness?

It doesn't have to be that way. **Healed people heal people.** We are the redeemed. We have value to God; we should have value to each other. We are all redeemable. We are like pennies that God picks up off the side of the road; he cleans us off, puts us together and multiplies us and calls us his riches, his treasure. We need to get our hands busy picking people up and redeeming them. Instead of praying, "Lord, give me..." we need to be praying, "Lord, make me..." make me into the child you want me to be, the servant, the husband, the wife...Not in arrogance but a passionate plea to be made in the image of Christ. Some of us need to be broken of our attitudes, ideas, sin, or rebellion. We need to ask God to make us into the person he redeemed us to be.

Look at your hands again. In your faith arsenal, what do you have to give? **Acts 3:1-9.**

Do you have faith to speak up and believe God will show up? Will things be left undone because we failed to step out?

We all have stones in our hands. Let's use them to build an altar of remembrance to God instead of throwing them at each other. Blessing and cursing are before us.

Choose blessing. Let go of the hurt and the hurting. Be healed in Jesus name and begin to heal others.