

Jesus Presented in the Temple

February 14, 2021

Luke 2:36-52

What is my Father's business?

All-encompassing answer: *Jesus said to him, "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.* **Matthew 22:37-40**

In order to have any idea about my Father's business He must know me and I must know Him. We must first trust Him for salvation.

Salvation is placing my faith in Jesus on what He did for me so I not only have the hope of heaven, but a relationship with the Almighty God.

Salvation- I have been saved, I am being saved, I will be saved.

Salvation is not the "end", rather it is the beginning.

Just like marriage isn't the end but the beginning, salvation isn't the end but the beginning and just like in a marriage you are either growing closer together or further apart, there is no in between. The same is true for us and our relationship with Jesus.

So what is my Father's business? What does my Father desire for me as His child?

1) REST

For we who have believed do enter that rest, as He has said: "So I swore in My wrath, they shall not enter My rest," although the works were finished from the foundation of the world. For He has spoken in a certain place of the seventh day in this way: "And God rested on the seventh day from all His works"; and again in this place: "They shall not enter My rest." Since therefore it remains that some must enter it, and those to whom it was first preached did not enter because of disobedience, again He designates a certain day, saying in David, "Today," after such a long time, as it has been said: "Today, if you will hear His voice, do not harden your hearts." For if Joshua had given them rest, then He would not afterward have spoken of another day. There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His. **Hebrews 4:3-10**

Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light. **Matthew 11:28-30**

So He Himself often withdrew into the wilderness and prayed. **Luke 5:16**

Now in the morning, having risen a long while before daylight, He went out and departed to a solitary place; and there He prayed. **Mark 1:35**

We must "rest" in the Lord daily, multiple times throughout the day.

The way I make it through the day is resting on Jesus and many times I have to be reminded to rest.

2) REPENT

for the Believer is not a "one and done" at salvation, but a lifestyle.

A change of mind that results in a change of action.

Recognize we are off base, have gotten off track, acknowledge that and "change our path."

Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the

presence of the Lord. **Acts 3:19**

*For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death. **2 Corinthians 7:10***

3) **RENEW/ REFOCUS**

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. 2And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Romans 12:1-2

This happens **daily** and most likely **multiple** times a day.

We are all prone to wander and get off base.

Rejoice
Engage
Disciple
Encourage

4) **RELATIONSHIPS**

Love God and love Others.

Of **first** importance is our nurtured relationship with Jesus. Right behind is the relationship with Believers (**discipleship**) and also sharing with unbelievers (**evangelism**).

Roadblocks to carrying out my Father's business!

1) Being **busy** with the "**lesser**" things.

*Now it happened as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word. But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore, tell her to help me." And Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her." **Luke 10:38-42***

2) Making **excuses**.

We all have different spheres of influence. We must realize as a Believer we need not to make excuses but to make Jesus our Lord.

3) Ultimately seeking to serve more than **one** thing.

*"No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon." **Luke 16:13***

Are you carrying out your Father's business? What area needs attention? Don't stop at the roadblocks, keep going.

Prayer Focus:

- Rest
- Repent
- Refocus
- Relationships