

I've Made Up My Mind

Ruth – Teaching from Sermon entitled “I’ve Made Up My Mind” (Jan. 28, 2007) Pastor Harvin



YEAR OF HARVEST
MATTHEW 9:37-38

Your witness is to be guarded. Pro. 22:1; Luke 17:32; Rom. 16:19; Eph. 4:1-3; 3 John 12

If you will submit to God, you will be able to resist the desire to hide in your storm.

As we seek to be effective witnesses, we must keep in mind that:

- There are challenges we all must face in life.
Mat. 5:43-45; Psa. 34:19; Mat. 5:10
- **There are three types of storms I want to deal with tonight:**
 - (1) **Caused by poor decisions of others – Ruth 1**
 - (2) **Caused by our poor decisions – Jonah 1**
 - (3) **Caused by walking in the Will of God – Mark 4:35-39**
- **Irregardless of the cause of the storm, God still will use your situation as a witness to bring glory and honor to His Name**
 - (1) Others poor decisions – God extended favor, provision, and His sustaining power
 - a. God allows us to learn from the mistakes of others and gives us the opportunity to lead.
 - b. Teaches us how to pray for others in authority – 1 Tim. 2:1-3
 - c. Allows us to demonstrate Godly submission – Rom. 13:1; 1 Sam. 24:1-10
 - (2) Our poor decisions – God extends grace and mercy and uses our poor decisions as a witness to teach others how merciful He is.
Mat. 12:40; Acts 9
 - (3) The Will of God – So that God can be glorified by how He develops and brings you through it.
John 9:3; Job 2:10; Mat. 15:31; 1 Pet. 4:11; 1 Pet. 4:14
- **In spite of our decisions, our circumstances, our hurts, our pains, we serve a God who is rich in mercy and grace who wants to release his favor on your life**
Eph. 2:2-7
- **Challenge of life is not allowing the past to limit your future.**
 - You must realize that your testimony qualifies you more than your learned knowledge of God.
Rev. 12:11; Phil. 3:13-14

POINTS TO REMEMBER

- (1) God wants to use you in your situation to bring others out with you.
- (2) God is not limited by what you say about yourself
 - Ruth 1:20: Ruth called herself “Mara” (bitter), BUT GOD STILL NAOMI : Pleasant
- (3) If you work in the harvest, God will work it out for you
 - Ruth 1:22: in the beginning of barley harvest
Rom. 8:28

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If you will _____ to God, you will be able to resist the desire to hide in your storm. James 4:7

As we seek to be effective witnesses, we must keep in mind that:

- There are _____ we all must face in life.
Mat. 5:43-45; Psa. 34:19; Mat. 5:10
- There are three types of storms I want to deal with tonight:
 - (4) Caused by p_____ d_____ of others – Ruth 1
 - (5) Caused by o_____ poor decisions – Jonah 1
 - (6) Caused by w_____ in the Will of God – Mark 4:35-39
- Irregardless of the cause of the storm, God still will use your situation as a w_____ to bring glory and honor to His Name
 - (4) Others poor decisions – God extended favor, provision, and His sustaining power
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