

REMAIN.

It is easy to look at Facebook or Instagram, hear stories from friends, or read a newspaper, and feel dissatisfied. It is easy to see these things and feel stuck, behind, or boring.

God certainly calls people to move and change and switch careers. If we diligently pray through decisions, we can trust God work is working in those decisions - no matter what we choose.

But God also has you where you are for a reason. He has you in that job. He has you in relationship with that person. He has you living in that neighborhood.

Circumstances may change. Careers may change. Addresses may change. But God is always calling you to dig into the now. You have been perfectly placed to make an impact on the people around you. You are not stuck, behind, or boring. God is using you right where you are.

IN THE BIBLE.

1 Corinthians 7:17, 21-24

17 Nevertheless, each person should live as a believer in whatever situation the Lord has assigned to them, just as God has called them.

21 Were you a slave when you were called? Don't let it trouble you —although if you can gain your freedom, do so. 22 For the one who was a slave when called to faith in the Lord is the Lord's freed person; similarly, the one who was free when called is Christ's slave. 23 You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of human beings. 24 Brothers and sisters, each person, as responsible to God, should remain in the situation they were in when God called them.

John 15:4

4 Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

Matthew 25:20-21 (from The Parable of the Talents in Matt. 25)

20 And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.' 21 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'

Matthew 28:18-20

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

QUESTIONS.

- **1.)** What does your everyday life look like? Who do you make contact with regularly? Where do you frequent?
- **2.)** Based on the verses above, what are some of the things God calls us as believers to do?
- **3.)** Think back to your answer to the first question. How can God use you in those situations?

CHALLENGE: Go into each average day this week with the mindset that it's a "mission trip." Watch and see how God works!

Whenever you read the Bible, ask yourself these three questions:

- 1. What does this tell you about God?
- 2. What does this tell you about yourself and the world?
- 3. How is this going to change who you are and how you live?