

God's Will in Church, Families, and Leadership.

Acts 21:1-16

Caught up in the busyness and the craziness of our lives, we often wonder whether we are doing God's will, or what God's will looks like. What is important to consider is this: (1) God's will is about "being" the person God wants us to be; not first about "doing" certain things. (2) God's will is faithfulness in small acts of obedience; not always about a great time of ministry. (3) God's will is not trouble free, but about being effective and productive.

Paul and his companions learned these facts in Acts 21, through that turbulent journey from Macedonia to Jerusalem. In the midst of the dust and the dirt of life, they discovered God's will, and did it with great zeal. *The secret is not in waiting for a revelation of God's will, but faithfulness and obedience in the task and problem at hand, no matter how small.*

What of their fellowship?

- They were called "believers". We are part of a church or fellowship because we believe in Jesus. Today we have created a church system where people who do not believe in the Cross and Resurrection of Jesus can easily continue in church without feeling uncomfortable.
- Concern. Their concern for Paul was great.
- Prayer. They knelt by the beach and prayed.
- They bonded well with Paul, Luke and others even when they had known each other for only 7 days.

What of their families?

- They did church together. By the beach, the disciples, with their wives and children, knelt and prayed for Paul.
- Philip (Acts 6:5, 8:4, 40), one of the first leaders of the Early Church, and evangelist who led the Ethiopian financial minister to Christ, is now known as the man who had 4 daughters who prophesied. What does this tell you about Phillip? He was a successful father who taught his daughters how to study the Bible, prayer, and to be alert and aware of their surroundings (the qualities needed for prophetic accuracy).

What of their leader – Paul?

- Paul learned that God's will is not about popular opinion. All his companions were against him going to Jerusalem. But he persisted.
- God's will is not trouble free. But at the centre of God's will is effectiveness and productivity.
- Paul was determined to go to Jerusalem because he was carrying a donation from the Macedonian believers to the poor saints in Jerusalem (Romans 15:25-26). He was willing to sacrifice his life to keep his word to the Macedonian saints, and to serve the poor in Jerusalem by delivering the goods. What a man of integrity!
- When Jesus announced his plans to go to Jerusalem, everyone tried to stop him. But he persisted because he was carrying the gifts for the whole world-the gifts of salvation, forgiveness, eternal life and the Holy Spirit.
- Jesus went to Jerusalem, and then to the Cross, and brought home all the gifts from the Father to the poor of the world – life, joy, peace.
- All that we need to do is to : (1) Believe in Jesus. (2) Repent of our sins. (3) Receive the gifts Jesus offers us.

- Pastor Kedo Peseyie

City Church

SUNDAY SERVICE

- Leader : Bokato Hesso
- Speaker : M. Odyuo
- Ushers : Toshinara Oving
& Kevizayienuo Myinthungo
- Keyboard : Vizolenuo Solo
- Flower : Bongmainaro

Call to Worship Praise & Worship

- Hymn No. 185 : Living for Jesus
- Reading : Psalm 119:129-136
- Mass Prayer
- Offertory & announcement
- Message
- Hymn No. 100 : Jesus Paid It All
- Benediction

PRAYER

- Pray that all believers at City Church will remain committed to grow spiritually in the Lord through engagement with the Word, prayer, fellowship and service.
- Pray for different committees in the church for God's leading and favour.
- Pray for God's wisdom upon the Deacons and Building committee as they plan and make important decisions for the building project.
- Pray for all the families and individuals who are worshipping with us for God's grace protection, and spiritual growth.

PSALM 119:129-136

Your statutes are wonderful;
therefore I obey them.
The unfolding of your words gives light;
it gives understanding to the simple.
I open my mouth and pant,
longing for your commands.
Turn to me and have mercy on me,
as you always do to those who love your name.
Direct my footsteps according to your word;
let no sin rule over me.
Redeem me from human oppression,
that I may obey your precepts.
Make your face shine on your servant
and teach me your decrees.
Streams of tears flow from my eyes,
for your law is not obeyed.

Sunday, October 22nd, 2017

Tithes: ₹ 51,100 Mission: ₹ 500 Offering: ₹ 6,360 Nagamese: ₹ 620 Total: ₹ 58,580

INFORMATION

- Enroute Fellowship today at 3pm.
- Wednesday Bible study at 5pm.
- Next Thursday Women's fellowship @ 4:30pm. Leader- *Mrs. Kevi Myinthungo*, Scripture Reading- *Mrs. Bodeno Colo* and Sharing- *Mrs. Bano Vinito*
- Sunday school picnic next Sunday after the service.

citychurchkoh@gmail.com, Facebook: "City Church Kohima". Contact: 0370-2242687

COME, AND SEE THE VICTORIES OF THE CROSS

Christ's wounds are thy HEALINGS

His grace agonies thy REPOSE

His conflicts thy CONQUESTS

His groans thy SONGS

His pains thine EASE

His shame thy GLORY

His death thy LIFE

His sufferings thy SALVATION

-Matthew Henry

ENROUTE (Youth Fellowship)

Staying Right with God: Being made right with God involves being forgiven and granted righteousness and it is critical for us to live in accordance with this standing. To do so, we:

- **Need to Obey God:** Obedience does not make us righteous but we need to obey God in keeping with the righteous state before God that is granted to believers through faith in Jesus Christ. Obedience accompanies belief and leads to righteousness (Rom 16:26b) So Paul can say in Romans 6:16 that obedience "leads to righteousness".
- **Need for Good Deeds:** While good deeds do not make us right with God, they are critical for staying right with God. Good deeds prove that one's faith and Christianity are valid (Titus 3:1, 14 James 2:26)
- **Living by the Spirit** –Through what Jesus Christ has accomplished, believers have been set free from the Law This does not mean that we are permitted to sin (Gal 5:13) We have been freed to live by the Holy Spirit. So, instead of living by the sinful nature, live by the Holy Spirit (Rom 8:3B–5) and live in God's grace (Acts 13:43)
- **Living 'in' Jesus Christ:** Believers are to live their lives dependent on Jesus Christ and act in a way consistent with Jesus Christ and his teachings. We live "in" Jesus Christ – and he in us – by faith (Col 2:5–7) and by holding to his teachings (John 15:7, 10).

- Moa Imsong

NOTES: