

WHAT CAN I DO?

Text: Mark 14:3-9

INTRO: Mary of Bethany had done a good work. She had done what she could. Back when I was working with the congregation in Mexia, Texas, I was asked to preach a sermon on "What Can I Do?". I wasn't sure how to proceed at first. Like the fellow assigned to speak about "The Earth And Everything In It."

But on second thought, I believe I can make some suggestions that should prove beneficial for each of us. Here are some things we can do.

I. I CAN FAITHFULLY, REGULARLY WORSHIP & PRAISE GOD.

Heb 10:24-26, And let us consider one another in order to stir up love & good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, & so much the more as you see the Day ap-proaching. For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,

A. I can praise Him in song.

Heb 2:12, I will declare Your name to My brethren; in the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to You.

B. I can praise Him in prayer.

Matt 6:9, 13, Hallowed be Your name... For Yours is the kingdom & the power & the glory forever...

C. I can praise Him by being what He asks me to be: by becoming a Christian, & by being faithful to Him.

II. IN OTHER WORDS I CAN LIVE FOR HIM WHO DIED FOR ME.

Rom 12:1, 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.

NOTE: I can do that by putting His claims & priorities first in my life--by praying--& meaning it: "Not my will but Yours be done." By seeking first His kingdom & His righteousness, MT 6:33

III. I CAN TELL OTHERS ABOUT JESUS AND/OR INVITE THEM TO WORSHIP AND PRAISE HIM.

Mark 16:15-16; 2 Timothy 2:2; Acts 8:1, 4

John 1:43-46, The following day Jesus wanted to go to Gal-ilee, & He found Philip & said to him, "Follow Me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew & Peter. Philip found Nathanael & said to him, "We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, & also the prophets, wrote--Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." And Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."

IV. I CAN USE MY ABILITIES & OPPORTUNITIES IN HIS SERVICE.

Ex 4:1-4, Then Moses answered and said, "But suppose they will not believe me or listen to my voice; suppose they say, 'The LORD has not appeared to you.' " So the LORD said to him, "What is that in your hand?" And he said, "A rod." And He said, "Cast it on the ground." So he cast it on the ground, & it became a serpent; & Moses fled from it. Then the LORD said to Moses, "Reach out your hand & take it by the tail" (& he reached out his hand & caught it, and it became a rod in his hand).

A. Moses didn't seem to have much: just a rod, a shepherd's crook, a stick. But with that stick,

1. Moses turned water to blood, EX 7:20
2. He parted the Red Sea, EX 14:21
3. He had procured water from a rock, EX 17:6
4. He won battles, EX 17:9-13
5. Num. 20:8-11 shows that Moses' rod could be abused.

B. God has put something into our hands. Some of us may be persons of 5 talents, or 2 talents, or 1 talent. But God never made any no-talent men or women. And each of us by proper use of our abilities & opportunities, can increase our ability to serve our God. See MT 25.

1. Several good song leaders. Good leaders need good followers. Some pretty good preachers. Need some good listeners. Some excellent teachers. Need some good pupils.

2. Some not public speakers, but talented conversationalists. Use that talent for God. Some are good at making money. Use that talent for God's cause. Some have skills that would be of help & encouragement to those in need, MT 25:40.

3. Dorcas could sew, Acts 9:39; Martha could cook, Luke 10; somebody prepared a lunch for a young boy, John 6:9... Nearly anything you have can be abused, or it can be used in the service of God.

4. The secret in serving God successfully comes in first giving your self whole-heartedly to Him.

READ 2 CORINTHIANS 8:1-5

READ 1 THESSALONIANS 1:2-10

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