



Sunday January 21, 2007 Our Dependence on God

We are dependent on God. God is our Source.
Acts 17:28 John 15:5 2 Corinthians 3:5

God is my Provider, Helper, the Strength of my life, etc.

What does this mean in every day life?

What our dependence on God does **not** mean:

1. Our dependence on God does not mean that we become complacent, passive or inactive

Paul worked hard 1 Corinthians 15:10 1 Thessalonians 2:9

Jesus depended totally on the Father: John 5:19; John 8:26,28

The prayer life of Jesus Mark 1:35, Luke 5:16 6:12

Jesus showed us what it was to be totally dependent on the Father.

He did not do what most of us do – a quick 15min prayer – as a sign of dependence on God. His dependence on the Father moved Him to long hours of fellowship with the Father!

2. Our dependence on God does not mean that we settle for mediocrity

Paul pursued excellence in ministry. 2 Corinthians 6:3,4

What our dependence on God does mean:

1. It means that we step out in faith to attempt great things giving God the opportunity to demonstrate Himself on our behalf.

It leads us to bold action against all odds
David versus Goliath 1 Samuel 17

2. It means that we are empowered to go beyond ourselves and manifest God

As people who depend on God – we should manifest God in our lives – at home, school/college, workplace, etc., through several ways. Here are some areas (with one example for each. There are several examples in Scripture):

In terms of outcomes:

- Supernatural wisdom Joseph Genesis 41:38,39
- Increased efficiency Judges 7:1-8 300 men accomplished what 32,000 men set out to do
- Divine favour Nehemiah 2:8
- Supernatural increase Genesis 26:12-14
- Unexpected opportunities 2 Chronicles 16:9
- Blessing on the work we do Deuteronomy 28:12

We can expect all of these and so much more to manifest through our lives because our dependence is on the Lord.



In terms of character:

- Uncompromising integrity Daniel 6:1-5
- Spirit of excellence Daniel 6:1-5
- Unswerving determination Galatians 5:22,23
- Unconquerable love Romans 5:5

We have a choice – we can settle for mediocrity OR we can choose to manifest God. It depends on how you wish to live out your dependence on God.

Understand God's heart for His people

Exodus 19:5,6 / 1 Peter 2:9

In both the Testaments God referred to His people as “a peculiar people”. His intent was that they show His greatness to the world.

Deuteronomy 28:10,13 / Malachi 3:12

God is good to all and His mercies are on all His works. His providence extends to every human person in that He makes the sun to shine on the good and the bad. And in the midst of this, God draws a distinction between those whose dependence is on Him (Exodus 8:22,23 9:26) and those who are not. God desires to empower His people to show His praises (virtues).

We have misrepresented what dependence on God really means – to the point that people think it is “uncool” to depend on God.

Let's go beyond ourselves. Let's work hard. Let's be excellent. Let's make our God look good!



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