

## **The Person God is Looking For**

Elijah had become too important in his own eyes. He had called down fire from heaven and had seen the destruction of hundreds of the prophets of Baal. Yet, when he ran from the wicked queen, fearing for his life, he settled into a cave to feel sorry for himself. Twice Elijah told the Lord, "*I, even I only am left and now they seek my life*" (1 Kings 19:10, 14). In other words, "God, no one else is serving you except me, and you stand a good chance of losing me. What will you do without me?" Because Elijah would not stop complaining, God decided to replace him.

What kind of person does God look for to take a ministry? There were many young prophets in training at the time. It would seem only fitting that God would choose Elijah's successor from that group. Yet, God told Elijah he would be replaced by Elisha. Elisha was a farmer and he was found plowing a field when Elijah threw his mantle around him. Elisha wasn't in school studying to be a prophet, but was faithfully working in his father's field.

Elisha was as faithful to Elijah as he had been to his own father. As difficult as Elijah made it for Elisha, Elisha never left his side and for a number of years followed Elijah without question. This faithfulness opened the door for Elijah's departure and for the ministry of the prophet to be given to Elisha.

### **Faithfulness is the Key**

God is not looking for qualifications. Above all else he is looking for faithfulness in one He has set apart for ministry. *Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful* (1 Corinthians 4:2). One day the Holy Spirit spoke to my heart and said "You can teach a person qualifications, but you can't teach them faithfulness." A person is either faithful or not faithful. As qualified as Paul was to enter the ministry, he told Timothy *...he (God) counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry* (1 Timothy 1:12). One day when we all stand before God, He will not say, "Well done thou good and *qualified* servant". Faithfulness in life will be the foundation for our eternal rewards.

## **What Are You Waiting For?**

Perhaps you have been spending time in your prayer closet waiting for God to open the door to your great ministry, occupation or destiny. Rarely does God give these kinds of answers while we pray. Prayer is necessary to make us sensitive to God's voice, so that when He does speak to us, we will hear. God usually speaks to those who are faithfully doing something. Elisha was plowing, Gideon was thrashing, David was taking care of sheep and Peter was fishing when the Lord spoke to them of their upcoming ministries.

It is time for you to begin doing whatever your hand finds to do. There are poor people who need to be fed, children in Sunday school who need to be taught, youth who need a leader or people attending church who need an usher. Instead of you waiting on God, He is waiting on you. Quit telling God of your lack of qualifications, and begin to put your hand to the plow and do the job that is available to you now. The door tomorrow cannot open until you do something today. *Thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things* (Matthew 25:21).

Bob Yandian

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