

PURSUING GOD AND HIS PURPOSES

INTRODUCTION

Recent trip to Fiji

- Pastors and Leaders Conference in Sigatoka
- Memorial Service for Pastor Alipate
- Commissioning Service for Pastor Ritchie

Reminded again of why we do what we do.

We desire to advance the Kingdom of God, by responding to the call of God for each one of us as individuals, and to be purposeful, committed and passionate in all God has for us.

Points to remember as we pursue God and his purposes.

1. REFRESHING COMES FROM THE LORD

Psalms 23:1-3.

We always need to remember who we are serving. It is to God that we need to look to for sustenance, guidance and direction.

Proverbs 11:25 *“The generous will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.”*

May we never lose heart in our service for God.

Hebrews 12:1-3; Acts 17:24-25.

2. LOOK BEYOND OURSELVES.

Investing in people, and encouraging others in their faith, is an investment that cannot be measured.

Philippians 2:3-4; Galatians 5:13; 1 Peter 4:10.

When we give beyond ourselves we are following the example of Christ.

Matthew 20:28.

3. CONTINUE TO CULTIVATE A HEART OF CARE AND COMPASSION

Matthew 9:36; Colossians 3:12.

We need to keep an eye on the attitude of our hearts.

So many times, as we read the gospels, we read how Jesus had compassion on people.

Matthew 20:34; Mark 8:2; Matthew 14:14; Luke 7:13.

How do we respond when we see those in need?

May we not be like the Pharisees and Teachers of the Law:

Matthew 15:8 *“These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.”*

Let us cultivate hearts that care and are compassionate to the lost.

“Do I even care?”

“Is my heart moved when I see someone in need?”

“Do I want to be moved with compassion?”

“How soft is my heart towards the lost?”

“Am I moved with compassion, like Christ?”

CONCLUSION

May we have hearts that are willing to be used by him, to be moved with the things that move him, hearts that reflect the same attitudes and attributes of Christ's heart.

2 Corinthians 8:16 *“Thanks be to God, who put into the heart of Titus the same concern I have for you.”*

May we find ourselves refreshed by him, inspired to look beyond ourselves and may our hearts overflow with care and compassion for others.