

CCC Devotion P3

One day My granddaughter Kayla and I where feeding the ducks up at I think it was Quiet Waters Park and as we were feeding these ducks the geese got mad and they came over and ran the ducks away and wanted all the food. All of a sudden beings I wouldn't feed the mean geese any of our bread... I guess you call it the Head goose came running over and started coming right for me... I grabbed hold of Kayla and began running away from this goose and then all of a sudden after about 20 – 30 feet I just stopped...

(Pause) and thought, what am I doing... I am 5 11 280 have lifted weights my entire life and I am running from a 15 lbs goose? Now what's wrong with this picture? So I stopped and turned around and we both, the goose and me just looked at each other for a moment. The goose looked

and said honk honk as loud as he could and I said to him, in the name of Jesus I will punt you like a football if you come any closer.

Later on I was thinking, why was my first response be to run from a goose. And as I thought about that and I haven't told her mom, Kim or her grand-ma, Edna-Wynne about that yet and I don't expect them to find out either ladies ... Now as I thought about what happened I thought about Christians, those who have surrender their lives to Christ, those who are followers of Jesus. I thought we do the same thing we run from things that are smaller then who we are, like the goose and me. See we can as Christians get intimidated with things that seem like humongous problems, that seem like humongous situations. But yet in God's eyes, from God's perspective they are much smaller then they seem at the time... just

like that goose. But why do we do that? And I want to talk to you about this today... See we need to on a regular basis to do a devotional check on ourselves. Let me say it this way maybe... we need to look at ourselves and be real with ourselves and just see just how devoted we are to Jesus. Because the more devoted we are to Jesus the less likely we are to run from those things that we preseve are humongous in our life and can hurt us. But in reality to the Christian, to the person who has surrendered their life to Christ, to the person who is a follower of Christ, they actually can't touch us. How do things grow in a Christian's life to seem so humongous that we are afraid and run? The answer is where you are in your devotedness to Jesus in your life.

So today I want us to look at the Apostle Paul. Paul for your information wrote most the books in the NT and I

think if you ever study Paul you will see that this guy's life was totally devoted to Jesus Christ. He refused to run from the geese chasing him... And why, because Paul was so rooted in his devotion to Jesus nothing could take His eyes off of what God had called him to do and listen God calls you and I to live the same life. So what is this rooted devotion... It begins at the cross:

- **Rooted Devotion begins with an accurate view of Jesus.**

Paul in God's word, the bible, in Acts 26 is telling a story standing in front of a pretty large political audience. The story he is telling is one about who He knew Jesus Christ to be... Paul begins to share his story about this Christ he talks about to everyone about. He starts by saying, "*Then I asked who are you Lord and this was His reply, I am Jesus who you are persecuting, the Lord replied.*" Paul had to get

an accurate picture of who Jesus was... Paul really didn't understand who he was dealing with till he got on a horse he was riding to Damascus and on his way Jesus blinded him, knocked him off his horse and revealed to him Paul this is who I am. Paul did not understand who he was dealing with... but he did now...

See we can get so busy doing what we think God wants us to do... that we have forgotten who He really is... We've gotten away from who He is because when you discover who He is... your hearts will beat for the **same thing** His heart beats for and we will understand and desire what he wants us to do... Not what we want to do.

What I am saying church is when I was gone for those two weeks God clearly showed me we don't have a resource problem in our church anymore... there are more resources and ministries going on at Calvary than one

person could ever do... We don't have a staffing problem we have great people here managing these resources and running ministries. What God revealed to me was we have a Jesus problem in the church today. And I believe if we will surrender our lives to Christ will for our lives and bring the church to the knowledge of who He really is... then you will see some super natural things happening here at Calvary like the bible says should be happening in His church. You haven't seen what this church can do or will be... We haven't scratched the surface of what God wants to do here at Calvary... You may say Why... why isn't it happening... Because it comes from a people who are devoted to Christ and Christ alone. So my question to each one of us here today is do you want people to see you and remember you or do you want people to see you and remember who Jesus is in your life. Are you pointing

people to the Cross, are you pointing people to Jesus or are you just about living your life and allowing people to only see you and your life. My question to you is, Who are you living your life for...

See I want to make sure you understand this point clearly, the church has a problem and that is we are not rooted in to devotion to Jesus and that is because we don't have a true view of whom really Jesus is... Rooted Devotion begins with an accurate view of Jesus

- **Rooted Devotion Calls Us To Action.**

Rooted devotion will call me to action. It will call you to action.

Have you ever heard an alarm go off and no one turns it off after a while you like don't hear it any more because your busy with your life.. I think that is what happens to churches. I think God has been calling many

people here to action and they haven't responded and what has happened over time you actually have quit hearing His calling you... Why... Why is that???? You've lost your devotion to Christ. It's now on things of the world and your thoughts and your time and your dreams for the worldly things are what's important not your devotion to Christ. Not the lost going to hell. Church we need to take action.

Listen to what happens to the Apostle Paul in Acts 26:16, Jesus says to him, "*Now get up and stand on your feet.*" (Repeat 3X) In other words...Paul I showed you who I am. I did not show you so you could get involved in a bible study for the next several years so you could discuss insignificant theological topics that will never be settled on this side of heaven. "*Now get up and stand on your feet.*" Paul get up and stand on your feet because I am calling you Paul to go take action and be my servant and witness...

because there is a lost and dying world that don't know who I am and you know who I am I have appeared to you just as he has to us now go and tell them who I am.

Listen people this is a great praying church... But we need to understand God is calling this church to action not just prayer. This may sound hard to you but listen any person can pray. Dear Lord I lift the people in my life, at my job up to you that they will come to know Jesus. Amen anyone can do that but Jesus says to us church "*Now get up and stand on your feet.*" and go reach the lost. Have you forgotten why I showed my self to you.

I remember so clearly when God was calling me to go plant this church. I could have prayed for ever and ever it was like we were at a cliff and to get were God wanted me to be I had to jump first.

See you can pray for ever and ever but that not what God has called you to do with your life. He has called you to take actions. I hear people say thing like this, well we can't do this because of that... or I can't do this because of whatever... Whatever, whatever, whatever??? Let me ask you something, "Do you know who God really is?" or have you made up some God that fits in your life comfortably God. You put His purpose first in your life and He will take care of your. whatever's, whatever's... that you use to keep you from taking action. **Leaders of Calvary you need to seek comfort less and seek Christ** more and when you do the younger newer Christians will follow your lead. Lose the thoughts that say God would never call me to do something risky or might cause me harm. Oh really we'll what do you see when you see Jesus Christ on the cross.

WARNING: God has called you into actions and if you're a Christians a follower of Christ, and you see those who seem to be more mature then you in Christ and all they do is talk and you see just words in their life... comfort in their life... run from them. If you don't see action in their life, run Forrest run... Because of 2 things they have not experience who Jesus really is ... or they have decided not to follow Christ any more and just play the part and they have gone back to following the worlds ways. Calvary doesn't need talkers we need men and women who will stand up and take action. We need a few good men and women who aren't afraid to proclaim Jesus Christ to this world. Who put Christ in front of their own safety and comfort.

I heard this story about this young 7 year old girl in children church and they were singing this song, This little

light on Mind I'm going to let it shine... then it goes on, hide it under a bushel **No** I'm going to let it shine. She is the loud singer you know you have some kids that project louder then others at that age. We'll here is what she was singing, hide it under a bushel **HELL NO** I'm going to let it shine. hide it under a bushel **HELL NO** I'm going to let it shine. Now my friend kind of took her off to the side and said where did you hear that song. Here is how it is to go Hide it under a bushel, OH No! And when he called me and told me story I said, "I like her version better. I like that attitude."

But you know what people of Calvary that's the attitude we need to develop in us... Hell, will not run me off from this church. Hell, will not run me off from being a witness to my Lord to others who I come into contact with.... Hell, will not revoke the calling on my life to serve

God here at Calvary in place of comfort. Hello, has no authority over me. Hell, has no power over me. And Hell will be less crowded because whatever the price is to paid to bring the Good News to other I have decided to pay because He will never ask me to pay the price He paid for me. I know who Jesus Christ is and I will share that... and the price that I pay will be less then what He suffered for me. What do you say, “Jesus let’s do this thing.” “Let’s do this thing?” You have to see this happening in your life for it to happen; you have to plan this to be your life for this to happen. Let’s do this Calvary.

3. Rooted Devotion will lead to the Super Natural

Listen don’t be afraid of the Super Natural. Many people get scared when you talk about the super natural. They say, “I don’t know if I believe in all that stuff...” Well let’s just go Jesus for a second here. Acts 26; 17 says, this is what

Jesus says to Paul...” *I will rescue you from your own people and the Gentiles. I am sending you to them to open their eyes, that’s super natural, and to turn them from the power of darkness to the Light, that’s super natural, and from the power of Satan to God, that’s super natural, so they may receive forgiveness of sins and be given a place among God’s people who are set apart by their faith in Me.” Super natural...* What am I trying to say this morning to everyone... The church has gotten so into itself that we now just go about living our lives without any regards for the people who are hell bound. In the book of acts it was the Spirit that bought people to Christ not their right programs, their buildings, just people devoted to tell the Good News about Jesus Christ. They just shared what they themselves had seen and experienced in their lives and God Spirit did the rest. It’s done Super Natural... you don’t

have to think of ways to convince people... you just need to have the desire to see people come to Christ and God will do the rest... it super natural. There is no formula, there's no special words, just do your part.

Let me tell you some super natural happenings.

Every Saturday night I go over my message and say to myself this is ugly and boring and I pray God without you super naturally empowering this message with your Spirit tomorrow going to be a bad day, a long and boring day. But Lord you promised me if I just open my mouth you would empower these words super naturally... Don't let this message fall on deaf ears.

Let us Pray:

Father I come to you to lift up those who have quit the race. Those who have decide it to much of a price to pay to live my life 24 7 as a witness for You, For those who are

just existing in this relationship with you and have chosen not to be open to share Jesus Christ with others...Light them on fire Lord... Stir us this morning Super Naturally to go and tell the Good News of Jesus Christ to all You bring into this church and into our work place and into our lives. It's never to late and you're never to old to start