

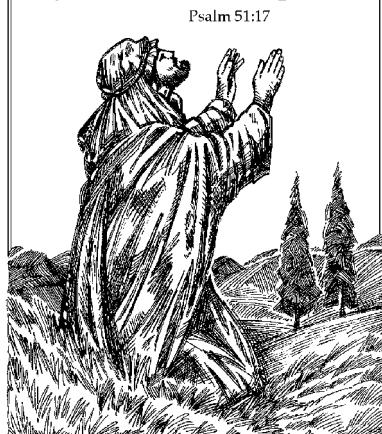
“...whoever would be great among you must be your servant.”

Mark 10:43



A broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Psalm 51:17



Communication Resources, Inc. (Scripture Art)

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A Christian Man on the Receiving End?

First, you were called to walk with Jesus, and in walking with Him, you have come across many feelings that may or may not have surfaced. Just because you are not aware of some feelings does not mean you do not have those feelings.

List feelings on chalkless board (grief)

Use my volume I (of volume IV) of *The Sacred Art of Spiritual Direction: Walking in Wholeness and Holiness* . . .

Do we have these feelings

Do we have feelings if we do not feel them

Or is there a possibly an awareness situation

Give examples of (with which they can identify in their ministry)

Chap – go easy on them when I bring a new one

This one is timid

Kneelected (Neglected) – did good in being aware of his feelings

Then became very angry at me over finding this out

He had not arrived!

I used to feel holy until I met you

Feeling word – useless

Feelings / facts / faith chart

Atlanta gunman (glass flask)

Baptist Preacher in West Plains

Grief – layered

Personal

Extended family

Friends

Work

Play

School

Ministry

Some of my clinical training – approx 32 semester hours were done in the hospital setting, other clinical studies working on doctorate, and still other was at Benedictine Monastery in Pecos, New Mexico – Charismatic Spiritual Direction with Jungian studies

Oncology

Ministering to physicians and RNs and patients

I would stay overnight, maybe the weekend – on call

1. Call from an RN regarding a man who was crying because a man in his room died. He had no idea why he was crying and the medical staff couldn't figure it out – so I got called
2. A man that the Oncologist could not work with on the oncology floor – would not let the physician work with him – I knew the scenario well . . . we ended up yelling at each other, then I lowered my voice

3. A woman dying of lung cancer . . . at Independence Medical Center
4. David . . . dying of lung cancer . . . met with family . . . both at home and in hospital

But – helping others does not mean we can help ourselves

We know things that we do not know we know

Europe – the twins

Knoxville, TN – the baby sister

It can be a detriment to ourselves, knowing how to reach out to others, we have our guard up – whether we realize it or not – when others reach out to us.

Luke 4.23 speaks of a Proverb, Physician, Heal Thyself.

This means that we need to deal with issues that we have. Henri

Nowen's *Wounded Healer* addresses this that as we reach out with the Healing Love of Jesus, then we also must receive the Lord's healing power in our lives for our sins, our ills . . .

One of the things that we can do is walk with a biblical character

Journal – explain (not a diary)

We are on a journey

We each have a bag on our back like Santa

One thing at a time as we can handle it

Then offer it to the Lord

Biblical characters (briefly address these)

Moses in Dt

Job 3

Jeremiah 20

King David

Peter after denying the Lord

Martha, Lazarus' sister

The woman with the Alabaster Flask

The women who supported Jesus' ministry

Deborah, the Judge of Israel

The wealthy wife who told her husband, Honey, haven't you noticed that Elisha is a holy man of God, and we need to build a room onto our house for him?

Hulda, the prophetess, to whom King Josiah sent his priest in order to hear from the Lord

Phoebe, the deaconess

Joshua

The three disciples wanting to sit at the right hand of the Father

Who is the biblical character that you best relate to?

Why have you chosen this particular biblical character?

So, Now what, Lord?

We want to be called of God; we want that holy calling upon our lives.

But do we want the blessing

Because with the blessing, comes the breaking

Before we can be used

The breaking holds in it grief.

Grief because we will part and go away from the Master – alone – but not on our own.

We will not be able to touch Jesus in the flesh as we encounter the hurts, the disappointments, the feeling of being

abandoned . . . but know of a surety, He is here – Alleluia!

Remember that the Father only once said, "This is my Beloved Son, of whom I am well pleased."

The Father did not continue to give the Son encouragement as things got worse. He hung on the cross alone. Even the disciples were not near the cross. God the Father could not look upon sin.

Remember Jesus said, My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me. Even Jesus had feelings and was able to speak them forth so that we could listen in to His Words.

The disciples while here on earth walked with Jesus

Trying to learn? No, there was something in Jesus that drew them to Him. They wanted to just be in His presence.

Loving Him with all their heart? No, the love grew little by little. Oh, there was something there that drew them, that caused them to leave all and follow Him.

Learning as they walked with Him? Yes. Remember this was not a mentoring process. This was a love process that caused them to give up all and follow Him at all costs.

They gave up family.

They gave up their work – some were more paying type jobs and others paid a lot less. Jesus drew from different classes – if you will.

This was a love that could not turn back – no matter how hard it got. Yes, there was one who did. There was another who tried, but his love for Jesus was too great to let go of Jesus.

John 21.15-19 – the commission – to go back down to the rubble, the cross.

Peter, you will die upon a cross. You will stand firm. So, to you I say, Shepherd my lambs. (Use John 21.15-19 at end)

You have known the steps of discipleship as you have already been walking that way – the *via dolorosa*.

1. Responding to the Master's invitation: Follow me

2. Then comes the course of practical training, the walk with the Master moment by moment in the heart and literally with the feet and mind.

- a. This call was a call to respond to the Great Commission: “Go, preach, saying, the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”
- b. It was the call of Isaiah 61.1-3
- c. Your call has been here at home, but first it is after you have received the power of the Holy Ghost, that the Holy Ghost is come upon you, Acts 1.8
- d. However, some of you will receive a call to go a little further out – or maybe a long way out of the concentric circle.
- e. Some of you have already been on the long journey and have now come back home to minister.
- f. You see, this is a prophetic ministry. A prophetic ministry is speaking forth the Truth of the Lord God in accordance with His Word. It is “Guard [ing] the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Ghost living in us [you]” (II Timothy 1.14).
- g. It is as Paul said to young Timothy, “Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you through prophecy with the laying on of hands by the council of elders” (I Timothy 4.14).

3. Then come the severing of ties – physical ties that seems to hurt the most, the going forth in the Name of the Lord.

- a. This is when the fiery darts of hell may come. They may come in ways that seem so subtle, and cause you to stumble before you realize it, making you feel so sinful, so foolish . . .
 - i. This is when you realize how much you need the Lord you God – so this is not all bad, if we repent and turn back to the Lord.
 - ii. This time of renewal can be most rewarding. I must admit it is not how I like to learn.
- b. Or this is when the attacks come straight forward and pierce the heart, causing you to hesitate in your walk with the Lord, perhaps.
 - i. But this is when the Lord lifts the fallen, pulls you into His bosom, to encourage you.
 - ii. This is when the Lord reminds you that He is counting on you to go forth with His love and wisdom to minister the Balm of Gilead to a hurting world.
- c. Or the enemy, called Satan, says to the Lord that He is going to sift you. He is out for your very life.

- d. He may come at you with a situation in your home, at work, - yes, even at church.
- 4. John 16.33.b “. . . In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!”
- 5. II Timothy 3.12, “Indeed, all who want to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.”
- 6. Then comes the words from the Master reminding you – I have called you by your name, even before you were born. You are mine (Isaiah 43.1-28).

As Dr. J. D. Jones puts it:

They were called that they might be sent – sent to preach –
To the barbarians of Lycaonia
To the Celts of Salatra
To the Diana worshippers of Ephesus
To the philosophers of Athens,
To the legionnaires of Rome.
Called –
To be stoned at Lystra,
To be scourged at Philippi,
To be imprisoned at Caesarea,
To die without the gate.

Were they chosen just to be with Christ, and enjoy His sweet and blessed fellowship? No chosen –
That they might be sent;
Saved that they might save others;
Blessed that they might become a blessings;
Redeemed that they might preach the Gospel of Redemption
Chosen that they might hear Christ’s name before governors and kings and before the children of Israel, and suffer many things for that Name’s sake
When Jesus finds you, “Tell others the story.”¹

Then comes the words from John 15.1-17.

Let’s go to John 21.15-19

Share the Scripture and going back to John 18.15-18, 25-27
Then John 21.15-19 – go through it verse by verse
Then end with *Quo Vadis*

¹ Lockyer, *All the Apostles of the Bible*, p 20.