



Becky Combee Ministries, Inc.

Yes, Lord. Yes!

Have you ever worked on a committee, working with someone who didn't do their part? Isn't that discouraging? Wayne once chaired an art committee whose responsibility was to decorate a church basement for a Hawaiian luau. In order for the luau to be more authentic, the church brought in a truckload of white sand and spread it on the basement floor. I'm glad I wasn't on the clean-up crew! They hung brown paper on the walls and asked Wayne and a committee of young people to decorate those walls by painting water scenes and palm trees. All of these teenagers were gifted and had "palm tree" talent, but they weren't interested in the art work. They were interested in the potato chips. They were interested in the music. They were interested in one another. They were not interested in the palm trees. So, after a while, he let them go home. He painted all the palm trees himself because they weren't working. They were not doing their part.

In Luke 16, Jesus relates the parable of the wasteful steward. This steward was called by his employer to give an account of his stewardship. In relating this event, the scripture does not say that his actions were illegal or immoral. It doesn't say he was "mean and ugly." He simply didn't do his job properly. Because of this, he was going to lose his job. What did he do? He called in all his employer's debtors and asked them to pay their bill, but collected only part of their debt. He said to one, "You pay me half." And to another, "You pay 80%. I'll write off the other 20%." He is

ingratiating himself to the debtors so that one of them will hire him after he is fired. But he was initially "called on the carpet" because he did not do the job assigned to him.

*I'll say yes, Lord, yes
To your will and to your way
I'll say yes, Lord, yes
I will trust you and obey
When your Spirit speaks to me
With my whole heart I'll agree
And my answer will be
yes, Lord, yes⁷*

In another parable, Jesus talked about a steward who ruled over a household while his master was away. When the lord of the household returned, he found the steward drunken and disorderly. The Bible says the steward knew his lord's will, but did not do it.¹ I don't want that to happen to me. I don't want to fail to do God's will. On occasion, I've intended to do something, but I didn't do it. I have even written it down; put it on a piece of paper and left it under the marble jar by the telephone. In our house, all important papers go under the marble jar. Then, when we forget

something, we can go back to the marble jar and know “what happened.” Well, what happened?

I suppose you might be surprised. Recent statistics report that most people who go to church all their life never volunteer. They have no job or responsibility in their local church. Church volunteerism in 2006 was 27%.² Do you remember Jesus’ words, “Well done, thou good and faithful servant.”³ One definition of a servant is a person who voluntarily serves another or acts as his minister.⁴

I am God’s servant, His steward, but I have few natural skills and abilities. Once in filling out a job or skill survey, I wrote “no” on every line until I came to the bottom of the page. Right at the bottom it asked if I could teach. I said, “Yes! I can teach.” I had to say, “No, I don’t do well at the front door saying, “Hello, How are you?” I’ve worked in children’s ministry, but “no” I’m not too good at it. However, I can teach. Do you know why? It is because God has called me and provided the gift and the anointing to do the job. When God selects you, He embraces you. He sends the power. He sends the glory. He provides the ability. Thank God for that!

What is our part? The Apostle Paul clearly defines it. He says, “Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.”⁵ Yes, God provides the gift. God provides the talent. What does He want from us? He wants us to “show up”. And when we do, Almighty God, the God of our Fathers eternal, brings His glory into our lives so we can in His ability do the part He’s assigned to us. Jesus said, “But you shall receive power (ability, efficiency, and might) when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you shall be My witnesses in Jerusalem and all Judea and Samaria and to the ends (the very bounds) of the earth.”⁶ All He wants is for us is to say....Yes!

¹ Luke 12:41-48

² The Barna Group, www.barna.org

³ Matthew 25:21,23

⁴ Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary of American English

⁵ 1 Corinthians 4:2

⁶ Acts 1:8, Amplified

⁷ “Yes, Lord, Yes” by Shirley Caesar

The preceding article is taken from a message spoken at Living Word Community Church in Peterhead, Scotland. It is available in its entirety in audio format. To obtain your own copy of this message, send \$6 to Becky Combee Ministries, Inc., P.O. Box 3283, Lakeland, FL 33802-3283. We'll send it to you postage paid.



Itinerary

Winter Haven Worship Center
Winter Haven, Florida
October 10, 17, 24, 31

From The Heart Ministries
Winter Haven, Florida
October 27

Family Worship Center
Florence, South Carolina
November 11-13

A Thought From Suzanne

*My foot standeth in an even place...
Psalms 26:12*

Proverbs 4:26 tells us to “ponder the path of [our] feet.” I have spent much time this year doing just that, and I have learned many things. The greatest is that I cannot “do” this life alone, but God has placed others in my pathway to help direct my steps. I am so grateful for the support and prayers of my family and friends.

In Psalms 18:36 it states, “Thou hast enlarged my steps under me, that my feet did not slip.” I have learned to stretch myself and “do” things that are perhaps uncomfortable for me. Yet in “doing”, in obedience, I have found myself not falling, but standing in the “even place” God has promised.

*He is faithful that promised.
Hebrews 10:23*

