

Introduction

Responding to Revelation: Part 1

Over the past months we have been looking at relationship leading to revelation and out of that relationship come righteousness. We cannot express enough and how important a true understanding of righteousness is to us.

Starting this week we will be looking at our responsibility in responding to that revelation God has given us.

We become accountable for what we hear, and when we don't do what we know to do, we are not living in the light which He intends for us to live in.

When we are given revelation or information, we are now responsible for that Word.

We must be proactive not inactive with the words God entrusts to us.

Scripture

- **Philemon 1:6** (AMP)

⁶[And I pray] that the participation in and sharing of your faith may produce and promote full recognition and appreciation and understanding and precise knowledge of every good [thing] that is ours in [our identification with] Christ Jesus [and unto His glory].

- **Philemon 1:6** (NLT)

⁶And I am praying that you will put into action the generosity that comes from your faith as you understand and experience all the good things we have in Christ.

- **Philemon 1:6** (NIRV)

⁶I pray that you will be active in sharing what you believe. Then you will completely understand every good thing we have in Christ.

From knowing who we are in Christ, we have access to all He is.

Here in this scripture, Paul is reminding us that now we have the “precise knowledge of every good thing that is ours in our identification with Christ Jesus”, we also have the responsibility to “put into action” or “participate in” the generosity that comes from our faith as we understand and experience all the good things we have in Him.

It is easy to produce that which we have been given or understand. But how can you give out what you never had?

That is why it's so vitally important to understand your identity in Christ. So out of responding to the revelation of our identity, it becomes easier to participate and share our faith so we become reproducers of what has been revealed in our hearts.

Responding to revelation requires us to:

Respond: to say something in return; make an answer; to show favourable reaction; to be answerable

Participate: to possess some of the attributes of a person, thing, or quality; to take part; to have a part or share in something; partake; share

Produce: to offer to view or notice; to give birth or rise to; to make available for public exhibition or dissemination; to cause to have existence or to happen; to give being, form, or shape to; to cause to accrue

Promote: to advance in station, rank, or honour; to contribute to the growth or prosperity of; advance, elevate, raise, upgrade

1. Participate:

Revelation to Gods Truth now requires us to do something with it!

- **Participate:**
 - to possess some of the attributes of a person, thing, or quality; to take part; to have a part or share in something; partake; share
- **Be a doer of the word, and not a hearer only:**
 - Paul is saying to participate sharing your faith. This works in all areas of our lives. To move in the miraculous it takes action and comes out of an understanding of who you are in Christ.

Scripture

- **James 1:22-23**

²²But be doers of the Word [obey the message], and not merely listeners to it, betraying yourselves [into deception by reasoning contrary to the Truth]. Don't be deceived. When you hear the message, and know the truth and are NOT obedient to that word, we are in danger of falling into deception. Once exposed to the Truth we cannot ignore it. There is a veil that blinds us from the truth. We can read it, study it, listen to it and never do anything with it. This is a dangerous place. If you believe it, you will do it!

- **Put into action what you learn:**
 - So many times we see Christians just sitting on the sidelines waiting to be put into the game, when we are called to all be participators, not spectators of our faith.

Be diligent to be and do all God is calling you to do. This will bring great joy and hope to others. We cannot become selfish with what God gives us. He is calling us to share the faith.

2. Share and Be Generous:

Part of participating requires us to be generous and share that which God has done for us.

He does not want us to be hoarders of truth and revelation but the truth which sets you free, He wants you to share with others, so that they may become effective and free just as we are.

- **Sharing is going to require you to have some experience with God or revelation:**

- How can you share that which you do not know?

But once you have seen the goodness of God in action, it is easy to share and reveal it to others. It is simply effective to share what God has done for you as it relates to another person.

Scripture

- **Romans 10:4 (AMP)**

⁴But how are people to call upon Him whom they have not believed [in whom they have no faith, on whom they have no reliance]? And how are they to believe in Him [adhere to, trust in, and rely upon Him] of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without a preacher?

- **It is important to not assume that others know what you know:**

How can they call upon someone they don't believe in? Or trust in someone they have never been told about?

- **When we share out of pure experience or revelation, it will be convincing, and effective to the hearer:**

They will have an understanding because they will be able to relate to you and the truth God has revealed to you.

There is a difference in someone who is just “knowledgeable” than someone who has “revelation”.

Our head holds knowledge, but our heart holds revelation. And out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks.

Scripture

- **Luke 6:45 (NIV)**

⁴⁵A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.

3. Produce and Promote:

Whether you realize it or not, we are on display. You can both produce and promote something people don't like or produce and promote the good things that come through knowing who we are in Christ.

- **Produce:** to offer to view or notice; to give birth or rise to; to make available for public exhibition or dissemination; to cause to have existence or to happen; to give being, form, or shape to; to cause to accrue
- **Promote:** to advance in station, rank, or honour; to contribute to the growth or prosperity of; advance, elevate, raise, upgrade
- Paul is simply saying that when you know who you are in Christ, you will be able to produce and promote those good things we have in Christ.

The world has seen the bad and even come to expect that which is bad because they have no hope. But when you display all who God is than they can SEE Christ in you.

- If you have ever been in marketing, or sales, you will know how to promote the product you are selling.

First you must need to BELIEVE in the product, next you would have had to USE it, and then you would have to give a TESTIMONY to what it's done for you. Why? Because you are trying to get the customer to relate to your story if you do that you have sold them, you have convinced them and become successful in your approach.

- People are watching you. If you proclaim to be a Christian and garbage comes out of you all the time, that does not convince me of the good things I have in Christ. If I complain all the time, how will they be able to learn to be thankful no matter what?
- Knowing God will cause us to display strength and take action.

Scripture

- **Daniel 11:32**

³²The people who know their God will display strength and take action

As Daniel didn't compromise and worship "other gods", we need to remain steadfast and unmovable in our commitment to Christ, no matter what the facts are we don't live in the facts, we live in the promise.

He knew his God, and people who know God have the courage and strength to do His will even though the whole world be against them and everybody around them be giving in to sin.

It's easy to serve God when all is going well, but the true test comes when we are faced with decisions that require us to KNOW our God and BELIEVE in who He is, even when his presence seems absent.

He remains faithful even when we are unfaithful. Participating does not rely on your feelings; it relies on Gods compassion to mankind!

As our revealed knowledge of Him increases and our friendship with Him grows more intimate, we will see a greater increase of His power flowing through us.

So put on God, and display His Strength and Take action.

4. Know our identity in Christ:

Knowing who you are in Christ is crucial to responding to anything God is telling us to do.

If you don't believe you can heal, although you read about it, or hear about it, you will never do it! In Christ, we carry healing in us, because He has given us the authority to do so.

If you don't believe you are His Heir, you will never receive your inheritance.

If you don't believe you are a friend of God, you will never be intimately acquainted with Him.

These are just simple truths that we need to understand to be able to be effective in responding to revelation.

God has revealed Himself to us in so many ways. When you "get it", you will "be it".

Scripture

- **1 peter 2:9** (AMP)

⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a dedicated nation, [God's] own ^[d]purchased, special people, that you may set forth the wonderful deeds and display the virtues and perfections of Him Who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. ^(E)

- We are chosen by God,
- A people belonging TO God,
- A special people,
- To declare and to display the deeds and display the virtues and perfections of Him who has called you out of darkness into His wonderful light.

What are you chosen for? Do you know how special and perfect you are to God?

He has chosen you to be his Marketing Manager here on earth and to display his goodness, and by our experiences WITH HIM, we will minister out of amazing revelation instead of just word knowledge.

Words, backed up by action, are proof that you really believe in what you say.