



Monday Matters

October 29, 2012

Make Something Happen

One of my favorite speakers is a pastor by the name of John Ortberg from Menlo Park, CA. A while back he wrote a devotional that I want to share with you this week.

"I have come that they might have life, and have it with abundance." John 10:10

This is one of Jesus' most famous sayings. It is what we would think of today as a mission statement. But when He says He's come to give abundant life, what exactly is He promising? Life turns out to be one of those words that everybody knows but is surprisingly tricky to define. Here's the best definition I know: life is the inner power to make something happen.

Put a rock in the ground and it just lies there. Put a seed in the ground - something happens. It takes in nourishment and begins to grow. it receives from and gives back to the world. Something happens because the seed has life in it that would not otherwise happen. To be alive is to change the world.

Because animals can perceive and move, they can



Glory To God In The Highest Ernie Haase & Signature Sound

Quote of the Week

"We we're born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us. It's not just in some of us, it's in everyone?"

~~ Marianne Williamson ~~

make more happen than seeds. And when it comes to human beings, what they can make happen is astonishing.

This drive to make something happen is present and precious in every person. It's why infants love to have activity boxes. They want to push buttons and turn dials and spin wheels and open lids. They want to draw and invent and create. They want to make something happen. This was placed in us by God. It is part of being made in His image. He created Adam and Eve and gave them a creation mandate. "Here is your activity box. Have dominion. Sow a seed. Tame an animal. Plant a garden. Make something happen."

It is the glory of a living thing to make something happen. It is the glory of a human being to make great things happen, for God, with God.

When circumstances or failures or people beat this quality down we feel dead inside. This is why passivity is so de-humanizing to us. Jesus came to give you power far beyond your own to make wonderful things happen. This life begins as our own thoughts and desires become rooted in Him, just as a seed becomes rooted in the ground. Then out of the abundance of confidence and joy in this inner life flows creativity and strength to make good things happen around us.

So today, be a 'make something happen' person. Invite Jesus to do it with you. No passivity today. When you're in a meeting, and an idea comes to you - say it. When you're with someone who's discouraged - encourage him or her. Write a note, say a prayer, tell someone thanks, call a friend, notice beauty, challenge your mind, solve a problem, give a gift to someone who needs it, take someone to lunch, sow a seed, plant a garden.

Be abundantly alive. Make something happen for the glory of God.

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**The Mamas & The Papas -
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