



A Rare Find

NIV 1 Corinthians 7:24 Brothers, each man, as responsible to God, should remain in the situation God called him to.

One of my favorite late night snacks is a bowl of ice cream. Now that I'm wiser and more mature I say no to that indulgence as often as I am able. If you are an ice cream lover and spare tire hater with me, check out this rare discovery: Ice cream researchers at the University of Missouri have discovered ways to make ice cream tastier and healthier. They are adding nutrients, vitamins and fiber to ice cream to make it not just a once in a great while indulgence but a functional part of a balanced diet. Now that's a rare find I can't wait to meet – ice cream that builds up your body. Another rare discovery is finding a person content with their life.

Just about everyone I bump into overlooks their own calling in life and their gifts for that calling because they consider it too simple and insignificant. We, myself included, want to look over the fence at the other “greener” vocations and the people with more “grass” to work with than us. The net result is that we end up dissatisfied with our own calling from God and disobedient to our Creator because we are angry with him for not giving us “better” gifts for a “better” calling.

Working at what God has given to us to do is a sign of superior wisdom and maturity. Worrying about what everyone else is doing and accomplishing is a sign of immaturity and foolishness. Yet so few people work with all their energy on what their Lord has given them to do, it makes you wonder if anyone is content. Citizens want to be governors, students want to be teachers, pastors want to be laymen, players want to be coaches, singles want to be married, and married want to be single. How rare it is to find someone who is satisfied and content with his calling in life.

What is the key to being content and focused on our vocation and gifts? Remember who is in charge! "When God was handing out brains, I thought he said, 'trains', so I asked for a slow one. When God was handing out noses, I thought he said, 'roses', so I asked for a big, red one." Of course those jokes are as old as dirt, but they are funny because we had no say in our physical attributes and gifts. Yes there are some things we can learn and become more skilled at, but many things about us are hardwired into our creation. Questioning any of those things that God has given to us or to others is insulting to our Creator. The Lord not only gave us differing abilities and resources to carry out our callings but he also put us in the perfect spot in time and place to accomplish those jobs. If we are jealous of another calling and gifts and/or hate our own, it's as if we are questioning the Lord's loving design for our lives. How ridiculous is it that we should question God's love for us when he sacrificed his own son for us on the cross outside of Jerusalem? NIV Romans 8:32 He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all-- how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

The next time you bump into someone who complains about their job or life, remember your Lord, your Creator and Savior to be content with the work and gifts he has given to you. Ice cream that builds up your body is a rare find. Be that rare find of a person who is content and happy knowing their life and abilities are a gift from their Savior and Creator who loves them.