

# Living to Make a Difference

## Part Four - Passing the Torch

1 Kings 19:19-21; 2 Kings 2:1-15

- I. You can pass the torch if:
  1. You know you aren't alone.  
Mt. 18:20. For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.”
  2. You listen for God's pick.  
1 Samuel 16:7 - But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature, because I have <sup>[a]</sup>refused him. For <sup>[a]</sup>the LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”
  3. You are committed to God' work.  
Philippians 1:17-18 Those others do not have pure motives as they preach about Christ. They preach with selfish ambition, not sincerely, intending to make my chains more painful to me. <sup>18</sup> But that doesn't matter. Whether their motives are false or genuine, the message about Christ is being preached either way, so I rejoice. And I will continue to rejoice.
  4. You are accessible for God's use.  
Isaiah 6:8 Then I heard the Lord asking, Whom should I send as a messenger to this people? Who will go for us? I said, Here I am, send me.
  5. You want God to get the glory.  
1 Cor. 1:31 Therefore, as the Scriptures say, “If you want to boast, boast only about the LORD.”<sup>[a]</sup>
- II. You can receive the torch if:
  1. You're available. Acts 8:34-35 - The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, was the prophet talking about himself or someone else?” <sup>35</sup> So beginning with this same Scripture, Philip told him the Good News about Jesus.
  2. You're willing to sacrifice. Mark 10:21-22 - <sup>21</sup> Looking at the man, Jesus felt genuine love for him. “There is still one thing you haven't done,” he told him. “Go and sell all your possessions and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.” At this the man's face fell, and he went away sad, for he had many possessions.
  3. You have a teachable spirit. Mt. 11:29 – Take My yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls.
  4. You have a servant's heart. Mt. 20:26 - <sup>26</sup> But among you it will be different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant,
  5. You can see because your heart is pure. Mt. 5:8 – God blesses those whose hearts are pure, for they will see God.
- III. And here's why we pass the torch, because:
  1. Every generation must be disciplined. Mt. 28:19 Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations,<sup>[a]</sup> baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

2. We reap what we sow. Gal. 6:7 <sup>7</sup> Don't be misled—you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant.
3. People are the place to sow. Gal. 5:13 – For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love.
4. We are thankful. 2 Cor. 9:15 - <sup>15</sup> Thank God for this gift<sup>[a]</sup> too wonderful for words!
5. It's more blessed to give than receive. Acts 20:35 And I have been a constant example of how you can help those in need by working hard. You should remember the words of the Lord Jesus: It is more blessed to give than to receive.