

We Should Be Growing

When the Lord told me to start a greeting card company—Bless HIS Name Greetings—in 2000, I was *surprised*. I had just come through three years of incredible healing and insights from God, and I understood that my old life was over, and that He was transforming me into a new creature.

As a result of my healing process over the years (though I couldn't see it years ago), I started to notice a particular pattern in my thinking. No matter what level of spiritual maturity I happened to be on at the time, I always thought I was much “deeper” than I actually was. When I look back over those years, I cringe at my immaturity and my arrogance. So you can imagine when God told me to start a greeting card company over 10 years ago, part of my *surprise* because I thought He should have been telling me to do something much bigger!

See, I thought God should have been instructing me to write a 300-page book that would get me guest appearances on the national morning shows. Well, He wasn't. Needless to say (and shameful to admit now) I wasn't overjoyed by the idea of creating greeting cards, but I did it out of obedience. In time I truly could see how the cards would bless others. I obeyed the Lord as best as I could financially at that season in my life. And, although many people were inspired by the greeting cards, I don't think I was ever as “into it” as I would have been had it “seemed” like a bigger assignment.

It's 2011, and I have recently redesigned those cards. And, I can honestly say that it's taken me all this time to see the “depth” of the assignment that God had given to me all those years ago. But, the reality is, I was too immature back then to see it and to carry it to full fruition.

What has God instructed you to do that seems miniscule compared to what you think you ought to be doing? If you're feeling like I was feeling 10 years ago, I can tell you firsthand that it's not the assignment that's tiny, it's your vision and your understanding about the assignment and the impact that God can make though it. Don't you dare miss one of the biggest opportunities of your life to serve God and His people! Do what God has called you to do, and do it with a cheerful heart...as cheerful as you can muster up, and ask Him for the rest.

Lord willing, I suspect that my level of maturity today will pale in comparison to my level of maturity 11 years from now, and it should. So should yours. We should be growing up in the things of God. ■



Kingdom Clarity: *If you can't look back five years ago, or even a year ago and cringe a tiny bit or even marvel at your “former” level of maturity, you may not be growing. You should be growing. Ask God to help you identify if you are growing, where, and how. He alone has the complete growth plan for your life.*

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received (Ephesians 4:1).