

Volume 1, Day 30 WANNABE SPIRITUAL?

"Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you." — Luke 10:20

As Christian workers, worldliness and sin are not our point of failure. Desiring to be recognized for our spiritual success is the most common failure. Never court anything other than the approval of God. Play to an audience of only One! Go "without the camp, bearing His reproach." If you identify with Jesus, you will be disrespected just as He was. Jesus told the disciples not to rejoice in successful service, and yet this seems to be the one thing in which most of us do rejoice. We tend to measure our own spiritual quotient in ways that satisfy our pride.

Our work begins where God's grace has laid the foundation. We are not to save souls, but to disciple them. Salvation and sanctification are the work of God's sovereign grace. Our work as His disciples is to disciple lives until they are wholly yielded to God. One life wholly devoted to God is of more value to God than one hundred lives simply awakened by His Spirit. As workers for God we must reproduce our own intimacy with God in others. Jesus' only direct command to His disciples and our unique testimony is, "Love one another as much as I have loved you!" Our commission is to reproduce that love in others.

Unless the worker lives a life of intimacy with Christ in God, he is apt to become an irritating dictator instead of an inspiring disciple. Many of us are dictators. We dictate to individuals and to gatherings. Jesus never dictates to us in that way. Whenever Our Lord talked about discipleship, He always prefaced it with an "IF," never with an emphatic assertion - "You must." Discipleship carries an option with it.

My Utmost for His Highest - Oswald Chambers