

## Devotional

## Silos

August 30, 2020

### Monday

Read Acts 6:1-6

The first thing you can do today is identify your silos. Where do you have power where no one else can come in? If you want to be really bold, ask someone to help you identify your silos. It might be the business you operate or it might be the silos you have built in your home with your family. They could be where you get paid or where you volunteer.

Next, identify who you can invite to receive the power you have and then invite them. It could be inviting an employee to take on a bigger role at the company under your mentorship. It could be inviting someone to volunteer with you on a specific task and eventually seeing if they want to take on that responsibility. It could be helping your kid start to do their own laundry. These aren't one-off requests but invitations to a relationship where they have more power.

God is excited for you to invest your power in others because God wants to see you build up others for His Kingdom and has more things in store for you!

### Tuesday

Read Numbers 27:12–23

Leadership and power changes hands. You can help be a part of investing in and transferring power to the people around you who will take what you have done and do something greater or you can wait for it to be ripped away from you when you are tired, weak, and burned out.

In this passage, God flat out tells Moses that his time is almost up and he isn't going to lead the people into the promised land. What is Moses reaction? How do you think you would react – or how have you reacted – when you lose power or it is taken away from you?

How can you use what you have been given – what you have right now – to bless those who are coming up after you? Who are you inviting to be a part of the journey – not hoping that they come after you, not figuring it is implied and that they get it – who are you inviting?

## Wednesday

Read John 16:1-11

Our study of Acts these past few months have made the words Jesus speaks here come alive! Look how much of what Jesus says to the apostles during the last week of his earthly life has already come to pass.

It is hard to hear from Jesus that it is better that he goes. It is a message that the disciples do not appreciate when they hear it. Certainly, it is better for Jesus to remain physically present with them. We often think this way, too. How wonderful and simple would it be to tune in each Sunday to hear Jesus preach? How much easier would our mission be to the world? We wouldn't have to make so much effort to point people to Jesus, we could just tell them to watch on tv or catch the livestream. Everyone would believe then, right? Well, no. If it were like that everyone who met Jesus would believe in him in Jesus' time and that didn't happen.

Jesus has a better plan. He will go so that he can send the Holy Spirit to illuminate the Church Universal everywhere, all the time. The Holy Spirit is wherever two or three are gathered in Jesus' name. The Holy Spirit resides in you always. And wherever the Spirit is, Jesus is there. Jesus has a better plan and you, a temple of the Holy Spirit, are key to that plan.

## Thursday

Read Acts 6:1-6

Read your translation of v. 2 again. The beginning of the translation we use in worship and I use in my study has the apostles' words beginning, "It is not *right*..." This implies that what the apostles are doing is better than solving problems with widows – that preaching is better than caring for people. I think a better translation would be, "It is not *appropriate*..." The apostles have their mission and they don't want to build a silo. Different people need to do different things in the church and they are all valuable. It turns out that the seven chosen can also preach and some are recorded in Acts performing miracles. We can't all do everything. Share your power.

**Friday** – please read and reflect on Acts 6:8-7:60 in preparation for worship.