"Your Job"

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By Mrs. Sojourner

Have you ever noticed that in most homes or work places there is a division of labor? These assignments of who does what are not always agreed upon ahead of time or even spoken commitments. For example, in many homes the mother usually cooks the meals. The father usually takes care of the yard and the vehicles. Other people may help from time to time but there is always an expectation that these tasks will get done by certain people.

The Kingdom of Heaven also has a "division of labor" so to say. God created people to have a relationship with him—to be his family. He made us in his image so we can do some of the things he can do such as create by speaking. The scripture tells us many things that Believers are able to, and supposed to, do.

¹⁵And He said to them, Go into all the world and preach and publish openly the good news (the Gospel) to every creature [of the whole human race]. ¹⁶He who believes [who adheres to and

trusts in and relies on the Gospel and Him Whom it sets forth] and is baptized will be saved [from the penalty of eternal death]; but he who does not believe [who does not adhere to and trust in and rely on the Gospel and Him Whom it sets forth] will be condemned. 17 And these attesting signs will accompany those who believe: in My name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new languages; ¹⁸They will pick up serpents; and [even] if they drink anything deadly, it will not hurt them: they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will get well. Mark 16:15-18 AMP

We Believers have things to do while we are here on this earth. Not only are we assigned to these tasks but God has given us everything we need to do them so let's do our job!

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...with The Sojourner

"Focusing Beyond The Basics" (Teaching Sketch)

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Ephesians 1:18-23 (NIV)

The basics are important in anything we do. Yes, the basics are foundational! We need to not forget as Jesus taught, to build upon solid rock rather than

sand. A foundation is part of a purpose.

The foundation must be strong in order to support the overall purpose for which the construction is to function. Everything that is built is built with a purpose—a function—in mind. This is true of buildings, organizations, or lives. The larger the purpose the greater the need for a stronger foundation.

Without A Foundation

Absent a foundation a building, a cause, a life will not be built. A life without a purpose is a life without a foundation, that life is doomed to misery and confusion. One of the purposes of parents is to give their children a foundation upon which to build a life with purpose and function! Absence of this foundation

brings chaos and misery.

Jesus' Purpose

Jesus came with a purpose and a function! He came to re-

store you and I to the purpose and function for which all mankind was created, to praise and worship God and to have dominion over the earth. The foundation of the purpose of dominion was stolen in the Garden by deception. The restoration of this function cannot take place until Jesus is recognized as Savior and Lord by an individual.

Building On Jesus

Jesus is the foundation upon which the purpose is built in each life to fulfill the foundation and purpose God established at the creation of mankind!

The Apostle Paul speaks in our scripture of going beyond our first acceptance of salvation to "the eyes of our hearts [a] being enlightened in order

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Scripture: Ephesians 1:18-23 (NIV)

(NIV is employed here to allow English speakers around the world equal understanding of the words used)

¹⁸I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, ²⁰which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹ far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. ²²And God placed all things under his feet and

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appointed him to be head over everything for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

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18The eyes of your understanding[a] being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to usward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, Ephesians 1:18-19 (KJV)

Just so vou'll know:

Our service is informal. We look to the Holy Spirit of God to guide us corporately and individually.

Our service usually follows this general pattern:

- **Informal sharing** of what we have seen the Lord do in, through, and around us since we last met.
 - Testimonies are often a part of the conversation.
- Opening Prayer
- Praise & Worship (Offerings are placed in the basket at this time.)
- Words of Prophecy or Knowledge if they have been given during "Praise & Worship" (other times as the Spirit moves).
- The Pastoral Message
- Prayer Requests
 - Ministry to those present & intercession.
- The Blessing

"Focusing Beyond The Basics" (Teaching Sketch) Ephesians 1:18-23 (NIV)



that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints and his incomparable great power for us who believe." You see, if we never take the time or the effort to understand this message to build beyond the foundation of our salvation we will not ever build the life God means for us to have or to occupy the life given to us. Yes, I mean occupy!

Not coming to this understanding and level of function in God's Kingdom is much like living in the basement of a mansion built as an inheritance for us. Oh, the basement may seem quite comfortable or if not comfortable at least adequate to our perceived needs. Unfortunately, our perception may not be at all close to God's mansion built above the basement for us to occupy and function within!

Not occupying the whole of what God meant for each of us before the foundation of the world is to condemn ourselves to every form of poverty that exists. We have a "glorious inheritance" already established for us. It is we who must read and understand "the will" written in the

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Word and in the light of revelation so we can move from the basement into the whole mansion we have been given in the here and now. Please do not confuse this with the mansion Jesus is preparing even now for us in heaven. I am speaking of what is ours in this life. Jesus did not leave us as orphans but provided for us today all we need to live within his plan, desire, and provision for you and I.

Beyond The Basics

Many who claim Christ have little comprehension beyond that of not going to hell when this life has passed. Most of the teaching they have heard limits salvation to hell avoidance rather that powerful living in this life. Wonderful as it is, spending eternity with God and not going to hell is only the foundation upon which so much more is already built in this life for every believer.

Believers have authority to lay hands on the sick and they recover! A believer in Christ is a part of the body seated with Christ at the right hand of the Father right now! Get out of the basement and take your place in The Kingdom!