

DAY 12

FRIDAY,
FEBRUARY 10

"Release me. Release me. Please!"
—Thom Yorke

"While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Acts 13:2

TODAY'S DEVOTIONAL:

I've noticed that I say things that I don't really mean. No, I'm not a major hypocrite, just an average one. Maybe you are too. Here's the test - when was the last time you asked someone, "How are you?" without any intent to hear the answer?

I have a hunch that many faithful, Jesus-loving people constantly say or sing things that they also don't really mean. "All we have is yours." "His kingdom is first above all." But do we really mean those things?

In Acts 13:1-3, the prophets and teachers in Antioch were fasting and praying, evidently desirous to hear God's voice. The Holy Spirit responded and marked 2 of the 5 leaders to GO for His work. Barnabas & Saul (later Paul), the cream of the crop, were called away from the growing church in Antioch.

This church had to answer two hard questions: did you mean what you said? Will you release your best for My best?

Though we don't have their prayers recorded, I believe they didn't pray anything more holy or super-spiritual than we do. Instead, in faith, those believers trusted the Holy Spirit with their best for His best.

We must ask ourselves the same two questions: do we mean what we say? Will we release our best for His best?

TODAY'S PRAYER FOR GOD'S PEOPLE:

Father, give us the strength to pray honestly. Jesus, help us put your Kingdom first. Holy Spirit, empower us to give our best for your best. In your grace God, help us release our all for You.

TODAY'S PRAYER FOR THE PEOPLE ON YOUR LIST:

God, please show me those who You have called me to. Open my eyes to their need for You. Holy Spirit, please open their hearts to your peace and heal them. Christ, increase your kingdom!

RELEASE



Contributed by Andrew Johnson, Associate Pastor | Neartown Church
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