



doing **new** things

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DEFINITION OF INSANITY: Doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result. We've also heard it said that if you want something different, you've gotta do something different.
NOW: Scripture also tells us that "having done all to stand, stand therefore..." (Ephesians 6:13,14).

They do not conflict...because most people haven't truly done all they can do.

BELOVED: That is the way it is with going into a new year or a new season... sometimes you've gotta do some stuff that you've NOT done in the past...something new!

- * Doing things different.
- * Doing things at a higher level.
- * Doing things more precise...exact.

QUOTE: (Seinfeld) – "Poppy was getting a little sloppy."

UNDERSTAND: If you are doing the same thing over and over again...you will probably get the same result.

(insert note about needing wisdom)

That is why this series has been so important...

- * Faith over fear.
- * We need one another.
- * Ask big, believe big.
- * Quit waiting to obey...just do it already.

These are things we need to start doing...if you haven't been doing them.

Or maybe you have done them in the past...but you stopped...you got sloppy, poppy!

Stop Doing Things Because that is How You've Always Done It

NOTE: This is NOT talking about obedience to the Word...if the Word says it...do it.

It is amazing to me how we live in a time where people are getting this "revelation" of getting closer to God by doing less, obeying less, NOT walking in line with His Word.

That is NOT revelation...that is information hazard or disinformation from the pit of hell.

Obeying God's Word will NEVER go out of style. There will NEVER come a time where you out grow it.

HOWEVER: There is a thing about God.

Isaiah 43:16-19

Isaiah 43:19 – "Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert."

Vs. 16 – He brings up the Red Sea...how He made a way through it.

Vs. 18 – (NLT) – "But forget all that—it is nothing compared to what I am going to do."

Then He says, He is going to do a new thing...crazy things...rivers in the desert! What?

Doing New Things

HERE IS AN IMPORTANT THING: God is NOT a stale God. He isn't boring. He doesn't lack creativity (that is why we need to tap into His mind, because we will be creative too).

The enemy has applied the same tricks for thousands of years...the same tricks he used in the garden... he is using today.

God is an eternally creative God. He has new things for us to do.

HERE IS THE THING: New things confuse a limited enemy. So don't believe it when the enemy tells you it won't work.

A Look in the Word

When you look in Scripture you will see this pattern time and time again...new things...new ways.

1.) Fighting Battles

Exodus 17:8-16 – Amalek attacks Israel.

GODS PLAN: Moses is to go to the top of the hill, nearby, and hold up his hands with his rod in it...as long as his hands were up Israel won...whenever they dropped, they lost. Aaron and Hur held up his hands until the sun went down...Israel defeated Amalek.

UNDERSTAND: How many times do you think the Children of Israel would enter battle and the temptation was for Moses to go up on a hill...get a lazy boy...raise his hands...and wait. This was the only time this happened.

Joshua 6 – The walls of Jericho.

GODS PLAN: Have Joshua go to the top of a hill and raise his hands? Nope! Have the whole nation walk around the walls one time for six days and on the seventh day walk around it seven times...THEN shout and blast the trumpets. Then take the city.

AGAIN: This is the only time they are told to do this...but do you think maybe they were tempted to walk around cities in the future?

Judges 7 – Gideon and the Midianites

GODS PLAN: Reduce the number of men from 32K to 300 men. Then take torches and put them in jars (to hide them) and give each of them a trumpet; and then at a specific time they were to break the jars and blow the trumpet and God caused confusion in the enemies camp and they began killing each other, or retreating.

NOTICE: Do you think this is why armies began carrying trumpets with them? Apparently, God likes trumpets.

NOTE: This is the only time trumpets were used as weapons (often as warnings)...God wanted new things.

2 Chronicles 20 – Jehoshaphat and the three armies (Ammon, Moab and Mt. Sier).

GODS PLAN: Put the singers first (no trumpets) and they should hallal God. That's it! He would set ambushments in the camp of the enemy and the two bigger armies would beat up the small army and then turn on each other.

Have you noticed the power of praise and worship in battle?

- * Perhaps we don't do the same thing all the time.
- * Perhaps sitting around doing nothing isn't the answer for your battle.
- * Perhaps singing with dis-interest isn't the answer.
- * Perhaps walking in and out of praise and worship isn't the answer.

2.) Water from the Rock.

Another thing we see a couple times in Scripture is getting water from a rock.

The children of Israel were out in the middle of the desert and were thirsty and had NONE around (really needed that river in the desert). They complained...Moses asked God for wisdom and God gave it to him.

Doing New Things

Exodus 17:5-7 – Smack the rock with your rod!

NOW: They had never seen that work in the history of smacking rocks with sticks.

HOWEVER: Moses struck the rock and water flowed! They all drank as did their cattle. You think they tried to hit every rock they passed from that time on?

Well, several years later they are thirsty again.

Numbers 20:7-12 – Speak to the rock

They are complaining again because of thirst! God says, “take your rod”! Moses is like ya?! He gets to hit something again, right? Nope!

Vs. 8 – Speak to the rock. Say what you are believing for! Water floweth!

HOWEVER: He was so angry at the people...he decided to strike the rock again. God provided, but Moses paid the price.

EXPLAIN the picture that is being set up. Jesus was struck for our sickness, sin and provision... we just need to speak the Word now.

Did you notice what God in Moses' way of doing the fresh? The new? Relying on the old way of doing things? His anger! His emotions!

How often do our emotions get in the way of hearing the voice of God.

- * Fear
- * Anger
- * Anxiety
- * Depression

3.) Crossing Waters.

One more thing we see a couple times in Scripture is the need to cross bodies of water.

Exodus 14:10-21 – Crossing of the Red Sea

GODS PLAN: Moses was to stand next to the sea and raise his ROD over the water and God would send an east wind and divide the water (which makes sense). It happened exactly as God said it would.

The same waters that were an escape for God's people were the graves of the enemies. Never forget that!

Joshua 3 – Crossing of the Jordan River

GODS PLAN: This raging river that is overflowing its banks...have your priests that carry the ark of the covenant step into the river. Do you think they were hoping for the whole ROD over the water thing? God would hold back the waters and dry out the river bed.

Joshua could have easily just said, “Oh I know how this works.”

PLEASE UNDERSTAND: There are some times we need to let the WORD (Rod) do all the work (obviously all the time), but there are times that the only way to break into the new areas is by taking steps that seem treacherous.

Conclusion

There is a temptation to do things because that is how you've always done it...

- * Offering amounts
- * How you praise and worship
- * How you attend church
- * Prayer time

If you haven't heard anything different...then keep doing what you know to do.

HOWEVER: God is a God of the new...the fresh...the more...the increase, etc. Take time to listen...to do something new.