

Where Is Your Focus?

By Cindy Buntin

*For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.
To Him be the glory forever! Amen. Romans 11:36*

Do you believe everything comes from God? Are your thoughts, words, and actions your own or do they come through Christ living in you? Do you live your life for God or yourself? These are tough questions we need to ask ourselves occasionally to determine if our focus is on God or ourselves.

Selfishness is a sin we all struggle with. In fact, we get a lot of encouragement from our culture today to focus on ourselves. How many times have you heard “Go ahead, you deserve it?” I know it is one of my biggest struggles. I have to tell myself constantly that everything in life is not all about me; it is all about God.

This verse tells us God created everything and everyone for Himself. He is in control of everything that happens to us in our lives. There are no accidents or coincidences. Psalm 139:16 says *All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.* Daniel 2:21 says *He changes times and seasons. He sets up kings and deposes them.* God is sovereign over all.

When we embrace these truths, our focus in life will change. When we see that everything in our lives comes from God instead of happening by accident or coincidence, our focus turns to God instead of ourselves.

Every person God places in our path has been put there for a specific reason. Every traffic jam we get caught in, every irritation we experience, every illness we face, every death we experience in our lives are all there for a reason. If we look at these situations from our perspective we will probably end up frustrated, irritated, scared, depressed, or even mad at God. But if we look at them from the perspective that God already knows about them and has allowed them in our lives, then we can start looking for the reasons they are there: maybe to introduce someone to Christ, maybe to teach us patience, or maybe to teach us how to rely on God’s strength instead of our own to get us through something we are facing. God will use every situation in our lives to grow us spiritually, if we will allow Him to.

Our verse this week gives the main reason for everything that happens in our lives - it is to glorify God. Take a moment and consider: does your reaction to everything that happens in your life glorify God?

It is a high calling for those who belong to Christ. When we make this verse the desire of our hearts, we will indeed glorify Christ through our thoughts, words, and actions. It is my prayer that each of us will glorify Christ in everything we think, say, and do.

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