ESSAY · APRIL 7, 2022

You Were Made for This

Written by Bill Perkins

God designed you for commitment just as surely as an engineer designs a ship for the open seas and a plane for the sky. A man or woman lacking commitment lives like a clipper ship tethered to a dock or a jet tied down in a hanger. All of your potential tugs at the restraints.

Entering into your spiritual potential begins with commitment. No one who tiptoes through life, as though sneaking through a minefield, will grow into a force for God's kingdom. The level of your spiritual growth depends on the level of your commitment to God.

Consider the words of John Rohn:

Let others lead small lives,

but not you.

Let others argue over small things,

but not you.

Let others cry over small hurts,

but not you.

Let others leave their future in someone else's hands,

but not you.

Maturity Isn't a Butterfly

Unlike a butterfly that might land on your shoulder if you stand still long enough, commitment demands action. No one will hand it to you if you sit around and wait. Spiritual growth flows from commitment. After the apostle Paul explained to the Romans the concept of justification by faith, he told them their spiritual life rested on their identity in Christ. Paul revealed a great truth: as followers of Jesus our true identity rests in our sharing in his death, burial and resurrection (Romans 6).

Yet, we're rendered spiritually impotent if we lack commitment to God and our new and true identity. That's why Paul said, "Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship" (Romans 12:1). As followers of Jesus we must place all we have, and hope for, on an altar before God. Anything less leads to a small life . . . a life controlled by fear, our flesh and others, rather than God.

Fulfil Your Destiny

If you want to fulfill your destiny and release your spiritual potential, devote yourself to God. How? At a moment in time, tell God that's what you want to do. And then, throughout each day, consciously ask Christ to live through you. You were created for commitment . . . don't settle for less.