



1. **God's presence rests on men, not on methods.**

We look for better programs; God is looking for better people.

"The Church is looking for better methods; God is looking for better men." — E.M. Bounds

2. **The threshing floor separates the chaff from the grain.**

And when they came to Nachon's threshing floor, Uzzah put out his hand to the ark of God and took hold of it, for the oxen stumbled. 2 Samuel 6:6

The threshing floor is where grains are processed after harvest.

1. Threshing - beat the grain manually with flails. Animals were used to tread over the grain. The weight and movement of the animals helped to separate grain kernels from the chaff.

2. Winnowing involves tossing the threshed material into the air. The heavier grains would befall straight down while the wind carried away the lighter chaff.

Satan is trying to sift you, but God is trying to separate you.

And the Lord said, "Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. Luke 22:31

But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren." Luke 22:32

But He knows the way that I take; when He has tested me, I shall come forth as gold. Job 23:10

Satan is trying to prove that you are a chaff but God is trying to prune you out of chaff.

Satan yells, "Curse God and die." The Holy Spirit is whispering, "Bless God and live".

Don't fly with the feelings; fall on the facts.

Testing strengthens our character (James 1:2-3)

Testing proves our faith is genuine (1 Pet 1:7)

Tested faith gives honor to God.

Testing gets rid of unrefined qualities in our lives (Job 23:10)

Testing proves believers are God's children (Heb 12:6-8)

3. **Don't reduce your expectations of God to one experience.**

Now it was told King David, saying, "The LORD has blessed the house of Obed-Edom and all that belongs to him, because of the ark of God." So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-Edom to the City of David with gladness.

2 Samuel 6:12

4. **Do it again. Do it right. Do it better.**

And so it was, when those bearing the ark of the LORD had gone six paces, that he sacrificed oxen and fatted sheep. 2 Samuel 6:13

Then David danced before the LORD with all his might; and David was wearing a linen ephod. 2 Samuel 6:14

So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouting and with the sound of the trumpet. 2 Samuel 6:15



5. **No passion, no intimacy. No intimacy, no fruit.**

Pain purifies my passion; it doesn't paralyze it.

Therefore Michal the daughter of Saul had no children to the day of her death. 2 Samuel 6:23

Don't let drama and trauma turn you into a spectator instead of a participant in God's work right now!

Where there is no passion, there will be no intimacy, and where there is no intimacy, there will be no fruit.

Three times in the OT, we read of women who looked through the window:

- Sisera's mother (Judg 5:28)
- Saul's daughter Michal (2 Sam 6:16)
- Jezebel (2 Kings 9:30)

And in a window sat a certain young man named Eutychus, who was sinking into a deep sleep. He was overcome by sleep; and as Paul continued speaking, he fell down from the third story and was taken up dead. Acts 20:9