

Ever since I stepped out of the Pastorate back in 2005 to become a full-time evangelist, I have been asked by many people how they could do the same. Unfortunately, I can't give a specific answer to each person as to what they should do. I don't know the specifics of each person's situation and haven't prayed for each person specifically. The final answer is going to be between you and the Lord. Only He can reveal His perfect will for you. I understand the passion and desire to seek and to save that which is lost and the desire to do it "full-time", but it MUST be God who is calling you.

Before I even move on, let's get one thing straight. If you are a Christian, you should be evangelizing "full-time" whether you have a secular job or not. God's will for every Christian is to be a witness wherever they are, to the people who are around them. That means that you are to be a witness at work, at the store, where you live, to your family, to your friends and just about anyone else that you come into contact with. Sometimes I think that people are more infatuated with being "full-time" than they are in being in the perfect will of God. You need to check your motives and your heart to see if you desire to be a "full-time" evangelist for the right reasons. With that as our starting point, here is what I can admonish you to do:

1. Pray, pray and pray some more- Like I have already said; only God can reveal His perfect will for you in this situation. You must bring your requests before God and then listen to His still small voice. If you are one of His sheep, you will listen to His voice and follow Him.

2. Have Godly people pray specifically for your situation. Tell them what you believe God is leading you to do. God often times confirms or reveals His will through other believers or even opens doors through other saints. Have your Pastor or other Church leader pray for you. Have your accountability partner pray for you. If you are married, your wife must be praying for this situation. Not only should she be praying for this situation, but she should also be in agreement with any steps that you make. Failure to have her in agreement with you when it comes to this decision will cause MAJOR problems in the future. Your wife is your confirmation from God. If she is not in agreement and you think she is wrong, I recommend praying for her until she is in agreement. This may be God's way of telling you that it is not the right timing.

3. Fast- Maybe God is testing you to see how badly you really want to know His will. If prayer alone isn't revealing His will for you, then fast and pray. He will reveal His will for you if you want to know it badly enough. Fasting is just another way to get your eyes, ears and attention completely upon God so that He can lead you and direct you. The Bible doesn't say "if you fast", but "when you fast." In the times where you would normally be eating, get alone with God and seek His face. Do this as often as you are able.

4. Put a fleece out there to confirm God's will. This must be something that only God can accomplish and that neither you nor any other human can manipulate to happen. This is what Gideon did when he wasn't sure if he was hearing from God or not. If you KNOW that God has spoken to you, then don't test God. This is for confirmation only!

Next, let me give you some practical tips. These tips aren't things that must be done or have to be done by each person and in each situation, but it's good advice from my personal experience. I do HIGHLY RECOMMEND that you do take all of these steps if you are able to.

1. Pay off all debt- That means everything! Pay off your house, your vehicles, your credit card debt, your school loans, etc. I don't care if you have to take money out of savings, retirement or if you have to sell some of these things (that you don't need) in order to get totally out of debt. Owe man nothing! God will provide for you. If He calls you to do something, HE is obligated to take care of you.

2. Decide BEFORE you step out in faith whether the ministry that God gives you is a "Tent-making" ministry or one that is SOLELY dependent upon God providing. In other words, some evangelists have part-time jobs on the side in order to support their ministry, while others just pray and God provides miraculously. Just don't, and I mean DON'T become an evangelist who begs people for money or takes long periods of time off from God's work to "raise support" or solicit money from people. Allow God to do HIS work.

3. Read these books: a) *George Muller's Autobiography*, b) *Praying Hyde*, c) *Rees Howells: Intercessor*, d) *Fresh Wind Fresh Fire*.

4. Listen to this sermon- "Ten Shekels and a Shirt" by Paris Reidhead

As for me personally, I prayed and fasted over a year before I finally stepped out in faith. I do a little tent-making on the side plus God provides. I have a Gospel Tract ministry (www.GospelTract.org), a printing/design website (www.PinPointPress.com), receive money from my time in the military, receive donations from people who like what I am doing, preach at Churches when the opportunity comes and do whatever else God leads me to do in order to keep doing the work that God has called me to.

If you do think that God is commanding you to step out in faith, just know that it is not an easy road. You must be willing to count the cost ahead of time. For some of you, this will be a whole new world! No more extravagance, doing what you want to do, having lots of extra money, etc. There will be times that you will second guess yourself and question whether you ever should have done this or not. There will be times when you feel like going back to your secular job. There will be times when you are down to the last penny and feel like going out and getting a job. Don't Quit! If God has called you to this, then HE will provide for you! Instead of taking things into your own hands, get on your face and seek after God! Call upon His name for help! You are worth more than the birds of the air and I've never seen a bird starve to death yet. This is why it is SO IMPORTANT to settle this issue ahead of time: Is GOD calling you or are YOU calling you. This MUST be settled ahead of time.

The last thing I would say is something I believe EVERY Christian should be doing: **Simplify Your Life!** Every penny that you are spending that doesn't need to be

spent...get rid of whatever you are spending that money on. It could be going out to eat, some new gadget you want, sports, cable TV, internet access, entertainment, new clothes, etc. Figure out your budget: what you absolutely HAVE TO make every month to provide for you and your family. Then determine if you could live off of a part-time job. If you can, then do it! This, at the least, will give you much more time with your family and for ministry than you currently have. This is something that I believe every Christian should do if they have their priorities straight. We must redeem the time! We preach all the time that our hearers aren't guaranteed tomorrow. The fact of the matter is that we aren't guaranteed tomorrow either! We must get our priorities straight and use our time and resources wisely! I hope that this helps some of you who are thinking about these things. If you have any specific questions after reading this article, feel free to email me at: Rev_Kerrigan@yahoo.com

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