



Brittney Williams

“ANSWERING THE CALL”

If my people which are called by name shall humble themselves and pray, and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and heal their land. 2 Chronicles 7:14

So I had to break the scripture down and dig to find out exactly what God was saying. While doing so I found that God gave 4 requirements to the people before he will do his part. There is a if and then clause in this scripture. So he is saying:

If my people, which are called by my name:

God knows the sinners will not obey his commandments nor is he expecting them to, so he isn't addressing them.

He's saying my people so he is making it personal. His people meaning Christians, his followers, his disciples and his stewards. Those of us who pick up the cross daily. Those of us who set our faith in him and know that we are nothing without him. His people the ones who spread his word. His people those of us who surrender to him totally and submit to his will and lead. Notice he didn't say those with a title. He's not saying just

the Preachers, teachers, apostles, deacons or deaconess. Titles mean nothing. He's talking about his people meaning you and I. His sons and daughters..

Shall humble themselves: Humble meaning to not be proud or arrogant. Humbling ourselves before God giving him the glory, honor and praise that is due to him. Knowing that it's not about us, but all about him. Laying aside our own agendas and following his lead. Humility is to be voluntary! If we do not humble ourselves, there will come a time when the Lord will do it for us. Showing you who is the head and knocking you down flat in your back so you have no choice but to look up to him. Humbling yourselves doesn't mean to think less of yourself but to simply think of yourself less. Knowing that you would not have accomplished anything and would be no one if not for him. He's giving you the opportunity to change your way of thinking today. Do better my brothers and sisters.

And pray: Talk to him. Build a relationship with him. Confess your wrongdoings and also ask for the desires of your heart. Just simply thanking him for who he is and what he has done for us thus far in our lives. He already knows but he wants to hear it from us. You know like when as a parent we already know what our child did but we ask them anyway because we want to hear them say it. It's the same with God. Prayer indicates a relationship. It's hard to get right with God if you aren't spending time with him, quality time with him. Not just reading the scripture that comes up on your phone from the app but actually reading, understanding and applying his word. Talking to him about what we read and asking for understanding. Prayer is humility in action. The praying person sees his own inability and recognizes God's ability. There is something naturally humble in true prayer because it recognizes that the answers are not in self but in God.

Seek my face: To seek means to crave or require as a necessity. Making God our number one priority and desire of our hearts. Meaning nothing in life is more important, more precious, or more needful to us than having God and all he has to offer. Seeking his faces shows our desire to be with God. Notice it says "seek my face" not "seek my hand". Too often we seek God's hand and what he can do for us; rather than seek this face and who he is. Don't seek what he can do for you seek who he is in you.

Turn from their wicked ways: To repent. That's pretty self explanatory. God wants us his people to stop their sinning. We are to examine our lives, identify anything that does not please the Lord or line up with his word, and we are to eliminate that from our lives. As we humble ourselves, pray and seek His face, our sin will become increasingly clear. Think about it this way. Repentance is to reverse the direction you were going in and walk towards him. Repentance does not mean to feel sorry for

yourself, or to cry over, or to blame someone else for the wrong in your life. It's simply the act of changing the direction in which the heart is inclined. It's a spiritual about face. Confessing to God that you know that you have done wrong, you are aware of your error and ask for his forgiveness and his help to turn you from those things.

Firstly we must humble ourselves, pray, seek his face and turn from our wicked ways, that is the if part of the clause. If we do our part then for our obedience God will hold up his end of the deal and:

Hear from heaven:

Forgive our sins:

Heal our land:

In this we may be looking for an instant change. We may be looking for God to snap his finger and the nation will miraculously be healed. But that's not so. The change we want to see in our nation is going to start with us. We must all get a new attitude towards our situations. We must all have the same mentality as the late Michael Jackson "I'm starting with the man in the mirror, I'm asking him to change his ways And no message could have been any clearer. If you wanna make the world a better place. Take a look at yourself, and then make a change". We can not expect change if we don't expect to change ourselves. We can not expect the world to be more loving but we walk around harboring hate. We can't expect anyone to do anything we are not willing to do ourselves.

God is going to birth some new things inside of us that we will not be able to contain. All we have to is humble ourselves, pray and seek his face, then he will do some amazing things in our lives and in the lives of those connected to us. My brothers and sisters if we do our part God is just to do his. So this question I leave you with is **are you answering the call or sending him to voicemail?**