

Verse of the Month Devotional

June

For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.

Luke 12:24B A.K.J.V

Thoughts on the verse:

On my wedding day, we had a family friend speak with us as we made our rounds after dinner. He shared that all during the service, he kept thinking of the verse. To whom much is given, much is required. I felt so PRIVILEGED and so HONORED that God would speak such things to others about me, and about Tim. I felt SO SPIRITUAL. Well, as we started our journey through married life, I was about to find out just how much of my life was going to be required of me, AND IT WAS HARD. I felt like God was SO HARD on me, and He always asked me to do so much, do all the things no one else wanted to do, and it was always so much harder and lonelier than I imagined. It wasn't until I walked out of foster care and into adoption and the new things that God was calling me to do before I started to feel differently about all these Hard Things. I mean, I LOVED being the most dedicated and the "yes" girl and the first one there and the last one leaving, and when I looked at my life and my children and my home I could so clearly see that I WAS BLESSED and I knew it was only by the grace of God, but it was just plain hard.. So I entered this new phase of my life with a new attitude of ownership about WHO I AM. I am the person who does hard things. And the more I look into God's Word, I see that He is the One who calls us to do hard things. He is the One who laid His life down as THE hardest thing. And so my perspective has changed, and I invite yours to do the same as well. Own it with me: I Do Hard Things.

Prayer:

Lord, I thank you that You EMPOWER Your people to do the hard things. Where there is life, let me show love. When you call me to dark places, help me to shine Your light. Help me to know that wherever You call me, You will GRACE me and EMPOWER me. Help me to see it as a privilege and a badge of honor rather than a target of a Cinderella before princess transformation. Help me to remember that the reason you BLESS us ABUNDANTLY is to be a GOOD STEWARD in where you have called us, so Your Kingdom can come, and Your will can be done. Thank you for counting me worthy of doing Hard Things. I pray for wisdom to know what to do with my time, energy and talents. I pray that I choose the GOD things, not just the GOOD things. Help me to HEAR Your Still, Small Voice and to be QUICK to do the thing You are asking me to do, regardless of how small or meaningless it may seem. Help me to remember that OBEDIENCE is better than any SACRIFICE to You, and that the more You Require of us, we should feel PRIVILEGED because that means You count us worthy to be used by You, and You ALWAYS supply every need, EXCEEDING and ABUNDANTLY.

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Action:

This month, I will search my heart to identify what God has blessed me with and how He wants me to use it all. I will write a list here in my notes of what I have in my hands, all my gifts and talents, and I will save that to look at as a reminder of what I have to give. I will not be afraid to trust God when He asks me to lay things down and do something different than what I want to do. I will remember the story of what Jesus did with 5 loaves and 2 fishes on the earth, how little is always much more if it is in Jesus' hands. I will remind myself that it is a great privilege to be required of something from the Lord, and I will gladly live a life where I am proud to do the Hard Things.

Notes: