

"I'm All In" Devotional

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I can remember growing up and traveling to various conferences and conventions with my grandparents. As we walked through the halls of the hotels, I can remember many people coming up to my grandfather and speaking to him. I remember thinking to myself, "Is my grandfather famous or something?" Over time I learned that my grandparents had been attending these church conventions for years, and as a result, they met a lot of people from all over the country. You know I still remember what it felt like to think that I was traveling with someone famous. I gained a sense of confidence knowing that I was his grandson and that I was connected to them.

Being connected is one of the biggest perks of being a child of God. There's nothing like being connected to the Almighty God, the creator of the heavens and the earth. Psalm 97:9 says, "For You are the Lord Most High over all the earth; You are exalted far above all gods." God has a great seat, with a great view to watch over us.

Being a child of God means you are also connected to a family. We are blessed with brothers and sisters in Christ, that journey through life with us and provide support and encouragement. "Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing" Thessalonians 5:11.

1 Peter 2:9-10 says: But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light; (10) Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

We indeed are the people of God, and He has chosen each one of us with a plan and specific purpose in mind. Let me take this moment to encourage you to take an "I'm all in" approach to the Kingdom and its work. Since we are connected to an amazing God that is always giving, we should give Him our lives, hearts, and minds.

I must warn you, being "all in" does not mean for you to try to do everything. Oftentimes, even as we work for the Kingdom, we try to fill our schedules with all types of work, committees, rehearsals, meetings, etc. While the work is necessary, and you have been blessed with great talents and abilities, you are only one person. The Bible compares our lives to a vapor or mist. Please give the proper attention to your body, mind, and spirit. I can truly give God my best when I am rested and not stressed.

How do we show forth the praises of Him, who has called us out of darkness? I used to think that showing forth praises was only referring to when we sing at church. But we actually show forth praises with the way we live our lives. Matthew 5:16 encourages us to let our light shine every day. Your light will allow others to see your good works, but in return God will get the glory.

Is there anything in your life that's blocking you from feeling connected or "all in"?