

The CMA is dedicated to Jesus' command to win nations to Him. A principle: God Initiates. We respond We can do nothing apart from Him. Yet, often we make a plan without consulting God and ask Him to bless it—and it was never in the mind of God in the first place.

Here is the problem--there is no part of the human condition that isn't fallen, tainted with our sinful nature. Sin is contagious. Romans: "*the wages of sin is death*".

Here is the solution--there is no part of God that isn't life giving and "death destroying". His righteousness is also contagious. When the two are mixed together (God in a human body) "*Death is swallowed up in life!*" Romans says: "*The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus...*"

GOD GETS IT DONE:

The principle: God does nothing on earth unless He gets a human involved. To re-take our fallen world, God became a human. Every part of human experience has now been touched by every part of God. Colossians says: "*In him all the fullness of the Godhead dwelt in bodily form...*" Every part of God, in every part of A HUMAN BODY... There is now no human experience that cannot be touched by God himself. God could not save us except by becoming one with us because he gave the world to us. He will not violate his Word. Now the exact opposite is also true:

We cannot do anything to save the world except we pay attention to what God wants done.

Jesus had no power to do anything unless the Father showed up in power:

Truly, truly I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, unless it is something He sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, these things the Son also does in like manner. John 5:19b. NASB

How much could the Son do of Himself? (Nothing!) Jesus' power is found in His prayer life—because all power was yielded up. It was only released by 1) prayer, 2) spiritual perception, and 3) submission. Jesus said:

The words that I speak to you aren't mere words. I don't just make them up on my own. The Father who resides in me crafts each word into a divine act. John 14:10b The Message

Did Jesus create his teaching? (No!). Where did it come from? (The Father in Him...):

Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I came from God and now am here. I have not come on My own; but He sent me..." John 8:42 NIV

Was Jesus' birth/life on earth His idea? (No). Where did the idea come from? (God).

Jesus cultivated his prayer life, discerned what God wanted done and then did it—and he could do nothing unless He did this—that was the secret of his power, his teaching, his miracles, his death, his resurrection, his everything. Now what about us? Let's consider this passage:

I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me, and I him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing... John 15:5 NASB

How much can we do on our own? (Nothing!) The process is identical, filtered through our Lord. Jesus perceives what the Father wants done—we abide in Him, and get his mission given to us!

God creates everything out of nothing—and everything which God is to use He first reduces to nothing... (Journals of Kierkegaard, p. 34)

THE SERVANT OF ISAIAH:

The Servant has come to nothing, like an arrow in a quiver. It is stored in a dark place—and no one even knows he is there, except the owner. We understand that Jesus is the Arrow, and God is the bow-hunter. God fires him into the purposes ordained for him and salvation is set into motion.

When we abide in who Jesus is, we become the arrows of God, set apart for the salvation of our local tribe and then the nations, and God is the bow-hunter. And we can do nothing until the Father takes hold of us and fires us into his purposes.

- 1) The Servant remembers his calling. (5).
- 2) He becomes aware that God is speaking, and pays attention (6-7).
- 3) He is given a calling to work with his own people, his own tribe.
- 4) He is given a calling that will beyond this: nations are given him—and God will do it.

Every Alliance church has a local calling—to shine the light brightly right where we live.

Every Alliance church has an international calling—to go to other nations, people groups and even to kings and to call them to bow before the Lord...