

Women & More

Approachable and Available

October 25, 2012

Isaiah 40:31 says, “*They that wait upon the LORD...*” can we conclude that this waiting on includes any of the people He died for? We have no idea how many people would approach us, if they knew we were approachable. Busyness overtakes us every one. And the look on our faces and the body language we display more often than not says *I’m in a big hurry, so don’t do one thing to slow me down.* And when we do stop long enough to be approached, how available are we to wait...to listen or share?

Do we really want to be used of God?

Do we want to ‘live’ the gospel in front of people?

What if we would do what is best for the other person?

Prepare by Soaking in Scripture:

Isaiah 40:31 (KJV) “*But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.*” Those who are willing to wait will—

1. **renew** their strength
2. **mount up** with wings like eagles
3. **run**, and not be weary
4. **walk**, and not faint.

Ephesians 4:22-24

Philippians 2:5

1 Peter 4:1-2

Hebrews 4:13

Scripture to Memorize:

Hebrews 4:12 “*For the word of God...it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.*”

NOTES on Speaking Session:

Questions for Mentor-group Discussion:

1. What does **being approachable** look like to you?

2. **Approachable describes Jesus on earth:** You could touch Him, follow Him, ask Him, and even lean on Him. What if you knew God wanted you to be like Christ, and do what He did? **What activities in your ‘busy’ life would you be willing to give up...to obey Him?**

- a.
- b.
- c.

3. **Available** for what, we ask? Most often God wants us to have the courage to be available for whatever He wants from us. **How does that sound to you; what’s your *attitude*?** Check all that apply.

- excited** **fearful** **resistant** **trusting**

“I will have to discern between an authentic call from God
and what might simply be a foolish impulse on my part.
Courage alone is not enough; it must be accompanied by wisdom and discernment.”
—John Ortberg

Recommended Reading:

- Discerning the Voice of God*, Priscilla Shirer
If You Want to Walk on Water, You’ve Got to Get Out of the Boat, John Ortberg
Next Door Savior, Max Lucado

The Little Man Who Wasn't There

Yesterday, upon the stair,
I met a man who wasn't there
He wasn't there again today
I wish, I wish he'd go away...

When I came home last night at three
The man was waiting there for me
But when I looked around the hall
I couldn't see him there at all
Go away, go away, don't you come back any more!
Go away, go away, and please don't slam
the door...(slam!)

Last night I saw upon the stair
A little man who wasn't there
He wasn't there again today
Oh, how I wish he'd go away.

AKA: *Antigonish*, in 1899,
by American educator and poet,
Hughes Meams

Almost an 'Angel'

Thirty years ago, on January 13, 1982, Air Florida flight 90 took off from Washington National Airport in Arlington, VA, and headed for Ft. Lauderdale, FL, carrying 74 passengers and 5 crew members. It was a cold—24°—snowy day...with promise of warmth in Florida!

Less than 2 miles from the White House, the Boeing 737-200 crash landed into the 14th Street Bridge over the ice-filled Potomac River, and 78 people tragically died: 70 passengers, 4 crew, and 4 motorists on the bridge. The reason for the crash was deemed pilot error.

And here is where the story begins: In the long minutes after the crash in the icy Potomac—as we shared the experience through TV—civilian and professional rescuers frantically attempted to get in close and, with the aid of a copter, tried to pull survivors to safety. One survivor repeatedly gave up the rescue lines to the other 5 passengers and flight attendant, Kelly Duncan—before silently slipping under the frigid, foaming water. When the copter returned for the unknown hero all evidence of his existence was gone. A careful wind-tossed blustering-cold search was made, with no sign of this ‘angel’ of life!

As the days passed, and the dead were recovered one-by-one from in and around the plane, their identities matched with the manifest and reported to loved-ones, it was thought that the man who gave his life for the others may have been an ‘angel’. Flight attendant, Duncan, was interviewed several times and, along with several passengers, gave a detailed account of this selfless one—this ‘angel’—saving others from the numbing-cold and a watery grave.

Ultimately, the body of 46-year-old Arland D. Williams Jr. was recovered from the cold river’s bed, and identified as the ministering ‘angel’ on that fateful day. Though he had survived the initial crash, he had heroically given his life so that others could live!