

Oh, I forgot...then I found blessings. El Mensajero G #29, January 11th 2017

I was listening to Elder Renlund's talk from October conference this last Sunday and was reminded of an incredibly important principle. This was Elder Renlund's first talk as a new Apostle. Can you imagine the self-inspection and doubt that must come with being called to be a special witness of the Lord Jesus Christ? Doesn't that sound an awful lot like what your letter from President Monson said?

As he introduced himself as one whom the Lord would really need to qualify (as he promises to do... and I rely on that promise) he said an interesting thing. In reference to truly being effective in a calling, he said that (and I paraphrase only a little here) "a miraculous thing happens to a missionary (he used missionary specifically) when they finally forget themselves and think only of others in their work".

Where are you in that process of forgetting?

When changes come, are your thoughts primarily about how the change of companions and/or sectors will impact you? When leadership calls are made, do you think about how this reflects on you, or why them and not you? How about the feelings of being frustrated with a long walk that turns into a cancelled appointment...that feels very much like it's about you doesn't it?

How do fellow missionaries feel about my Spanish? Are my teaching examples clever enough to impress the members of my district? How will my performance look against these new (and seemingly more difficult) standards of excellence?

Did a couple of these touch a nerve? If not, wonderful, if so, let's repent ourselves and change.

Elder Renlund then said...the blessings that await us as children of a loving and giving Heavenly Father are remarkable and bountiful.

Let's believe this teaching and really turn our focus on those we are called to serve AND THOSE WE SERVE WITH.

We add our promise that as we forget ourselves and our own needs and wants and move our full attention to others, our entire perspective will in fact change. Opportunities to teach and testify will increase. Those with whom we interact each day will be drawn to our sincere concern and everyone involved...including you, will receive the blessings that He is anxiously waiting to give.

We love you and we love this work!
President and Sister Gwilliam