

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ!

Thank you so much for visiting our website! Here is an excerpt of my notes from Pastor A.J.'s sermon, "I Want What I Want!"

We pray this Message will bless you the way it blessed us! Please come back again next week for more from "LaKesha's Pen" with another inspiring message from our Pastor.

Yours in Christ,

LaKesha Johnson-Lewis

We live in a season and time where the attitude of "I want what I want!" is running rampant. Instant results and quick gratification is the culture we now live in. Hard work, perseverance and long suffering better known as patience are a thing of the past. Previous generations that suffered and worked hard for what they accomplished showered their children with gifts. They desired to give their children more and better. They didn't want their children to have to suffer the way they suffered and they didn't want their children to have to sacrifice the way they sacrificed. Looking from a distance and comparing their lives with those who were born with a silver spoon in their mouths they became driven by their success. Family and other values have taken a back seat to obtaining things. As this holiday season approaches people run out to collect as many gadgets as they possibly can for themselves and their children. Charity and brotherly love, meeting the needs of those less fortunate are becoming less and less. The message of Christmas lost. As the holidays move from "Thanksgiving" a time of coming together with family and friends giving thanks to God for all He has done and we transition into what should be a time of giving back we have actually moved into a time of "Thanksgetting". What used to be a time of celebration of God's goodness, has also become a thing of the past. Thanksgiving and Christmas sets the mood for the New Year to come. It should generate a hope and expectation of the great things God will be doing in the upcoming year but instead it will leave many broke, in debt and empty. Instead of spreading good fortune to the less fortunate it has become a time of obtaining what I want! Be careful what you ask for because you may just get it!

1 Samuel 8:4-6

Samuel was a judge and God appointed the judges to rule over Israel. God selected the judges because people can only see the exterior of people where God sees what on the inside of a person's heart. Samuel had given the reign over to his sons and they began perverting the law. So the people became dissatisfied. Now there was nothing wrong with their request or their dissatisfaction with Samuel's sons. The problem was in their motivation. They didn't want God to elect a new judge. They were insisting on having what all the other nations had....a king.

God didn't want Israel to be like the other nations. Their trust was not in God. You have to determine in your heart ahead of time that you will trust God when you don't understand and that you will not become the person who insists on knowing when and why or just on having things your way. These questions almost always stem from a place of doubt and you do not want to form this type of habit. You must follow Samuel's example. When he found himself upset about the current situation he went before God in prayer. God had set Israel apart for His purpose but the people kept on with their demands in spite of all God's warnings. Be careful what you continue to insist on because God may just give it to you! This is the thing you want and God has already warned you and even has told you no. Let God's no be no and His yes be yes. Trust Him when you don't understand.

In **Luke 7:32**, the "church" people were compared to children who played in the market place. The market place was a place of business but there the children playing where adults were working. This is happening in the lives of Christians today. Playing "church"; pretending and acting outwardly what has no reality inwardly. You play the part and do churchy acts but your heart is far from the things of God. Many Christians want God to bless their messy lives and situations. Instead of allowing His Word to transform their lives; they want God to conform His Word to their lifestyles.

Why do you do what you do? If you can't answer this question ask God and He will show you and He will help you fix it. You may have become so accustomed to doing wrong that you don't realize it is wrong. Maybe you have seen this lifestyle lived by others in your family and this is the way things have always been done so you don't think to question it. This is the reason you must go to God and ask him to reveal it to you. What you don't see is there is fight going on in the spiritual realm to keep you in a certain place. Satan is notorious for perverting the gifts and talents we have and instead of using them for the glory of God we will use it for Satan's work. The area of struggle you have may be the very area God will bless you in. When you spend time in the Word of God and in prayer you can begin to decode this spiritual fight that is taking place. God will help you understand the cause of the fight.

In **1 Corinthians 13:11**, instructs us to put away childish things. It's time to go to the next level with God. You must learn to not pray from you circumstances but pray from a

place of destiny. Knowing what God's promises are and that His plan for you and your family is for good and not for evil. You must remind your circumstances of your destiny. The enemy will try to keep you from what God has planned for you but as long as your motivation is aligned with God's will God is obligated to answer your prayer (**See Isaiah 55:11**). After time with God and declaring His promises over your situation do whatever He tells you to do. Do it when He tells you to do it and exactly how He tells you to do it. God parted the Red Sea for Moses. Peter walked on water. Jesus fed 5,000 with five loaves and two fish. God delivered Jonah from the belly of a whale. What is impossible for man is possible with God (**Luke 18:27**).

Trust! Trust God's process this includes His ways, His timing and what He tells you. What God wants for you is better than what you want for yourself. Let go of the attitude "I want what I want!" Get back to the basics. Be thankful and do good. God has already released everything you need.