

Katy 1st Ward Spiritual Message #60

I am not doing anything wrong!

Some time ago we had a friend who was having a lot of problems in their life. Everything seemed to be upside down and going wrong. As we visited with our friend we questioned things going on in our friend's life. Several times during the conversation our friend would blurt out, "WHY AREN'T THINGS WORKING OUT, I AM NOT DOING ANYTHING WRONG". I guess that implied that God was not blessing our friend even though they were not doing anything "WRONG". We did not seem to be able to help our friend with the life's situation our friend was in and we finally let our friend go on home without having come to any resolution as to why things were going so wrong in our friend's life.

A few weeks ago it was like I started to hear my friend's voice in my mind saying over and over "I AM NOT DOING ANYTHING WRONG". But then as I thought about it, it occurred to me that sometimes in our lives it is not enough to just not be doing anything wrong. To be successful we also have to "BE DOING SOME THINGS RIGHT".

Since then I have thought over and over about that. Many different examples have come to my mind. Someone we know just graduated from college. She was not doing anything wrong in her life but she needed to work and help support the family but was not able to earn enough to meet their needs. Without a college education she was not able to get a high enough paying job to earn what they needed. So even though she was not doing anything "WRONG", she was also not doing something "RIGHT". She needed to get a better education to improve her ability to earn money. After she did that then she got a really good job and the rest will be history.

Several times I have met people in my profession who are not very successful at what they do. They again could say they are not doing anything wrong. Being self-employed is not like having a regular job. It is very easy when you are self-employed to go through all the motions of doing the work but mistake activity for accomplishment. It is not "WRONG" to spend time preparing or doing personal things but in the self-employed business you only get paid for productive time. So when I suggested she start keeping track of how much time she spent in a day on "PERSONAL, PREPARATION, and PRODUCTIVE time, things changed. I told her to make sure the productive part was at least 80% of her working time. Once she did that, then she started to be successful.

If you are in sales, and you are not very good with people that does not mean you are doing something wrong, but it for sure means you are not doing something right. If you want to be successful in sales (or as a missionary for that matter) you have to be good in dealing with people. We had a friend tell us once that if people did not like her then that was their problem not hers. That is fine. That is not doing something wrong. But that will not contribute to her being successful in the sales business if she does not change that and start doing things that are "RIGHT". She needs to become a people person and realizing that if someone does not like you that turns out it is your problem not theirs (in sales and missionary work at least). If you are a night custodian at the school and never see anyone then you are right, you don't have to worry about anyone liking you. There is a difference.

Almost every day now, I hear my friend's voice in my mind saying, "I'M NOT DOING ANYTHING WRONG". I hope someday Janice and I will have a chance to share our feelings with our friend again so we can help our friend see some of the things that need to be done "RIGHT" to turn the upside down part of life right side up again rather than focusing on not having done anything "WRONG".

Brother Vail

[Back To Index Page](#)