

Be patient ...God Heard You the First Time!!!

"Be patient ...God heard you the first time!!!" I know you may have heard this from someone in your life regarding an unanswered prayer or a blessing. You constantly go before God with questions asking *"Where are you, do you hear me?"* You think maybe you didn't pray right the first time or maybe you weren't clear enough, so you go to the Lord again. This time with a little bit more sweat and tears....a little more heart than before in hopes that this last prayer will get through. Well, in case you're still waiting....Be patient, God heard you the first time. It's your faith that needs a little bit of tweaking. You need to water that seed of faith and allow it to grow deep enough to take root in your heart. You must trust in what God promised in His Word to do IN you and FOR your life. Be patient...he heard you the first time!!!

I recently had a conversation with a single Christian brotha. He spoke very candidly about the struggles he was having. His financial woes, a failing relationship, along with a dead-end job were all taking a toll. His dreams and aspirations seem to fade with each passing day. He questioned his Christianity and his ability to choose the right path for his life. He felt that his prayers for a breakthrough were not going to be answered. *"The choice to be a Christian-is it worth it? What's the gain? Does God really answer prayer, Kim? Should I continue to surrender all when it seems as though there's nothing left to let go of."* He asked.

I truly understood his frustration, life causes us to face gut-wrenching circumstances and sometimes life altering moments where you need to see God make an indisputable appearance. Oh He most definitely shows up. God never changes. He is the same yesterday, today and forever. We are His children and He will never leave us nor forsake us in any situation; on this we can rest assure. But here's the thing, the requests we make with our mouths are not necessarily the ones we make with our hearts.

Hebrews 4:2 (KJV)

For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard [it].

Our desire to be blessed must be matched by our faith. Faith is the outward manifestation of what we believe inwardly—in the deepest part of our

hearts. 2 Chronicles 16:9 tells us that the eyes of the Lord roam the earth looking for an opportunity to show His strength towards those whose hearts are loyal towards Him. God searches our hearts, not to put us down or make us feel unworthy, but to show us how to be the best we can be.

God moves by the power of His love. It is this power that causes things to change and flow in a positive direction. He speaks love and He gave us the Holy Spirit so that we could speak it too. We always have His full attention, but we must know that we have to speak His language, and when He listens to our hearts that is exactly what He expects to hear.

John 16:23-24 says whatever you ask the Father in the name of Jesus Christ He will give it to you. Ask and you will receive that your joy may be full! Jesus Christ said we have the right to ask anything of our Heavenly Father, but our faith must be the faith of Jesus Christ; a faith that seeks to please God first and demonstrate His brand of love in the earth. God will most assuredly give us the desires of our hearts, that's why it is so awesomely important that we examine what's in them before, during, and after we approach the throne.

Perhaps we haven't been faithful to tithe. Maybe we are holding on to past hurts, or past grudges. It could be that we haven't been as kind as we should have been, or we continue to indulge in sexual sin. Whatever it is that is holding us back, we need to seek forgiveness, repent, and reprioritize our relationship with God. Not doing so causes us to double talk; to say one thing and mean another.

Don't worry! When God comes through for you it is going to be everything you thought it could be and more, for Ephesians 3:20 says He will do exceeding abundantly above what we ask or think. If the message of our mouths isn't the message of our hearts, God will know it, and He will help us get in harmony so that our mouths and hearts speak the same thing. He will do this because He doesn't want anything to get in the way of our blessing. So if you feel God isn't listening, He is. Even though you may not feel it, He is at work within your soul. Begin to pray to understand what He is doing and be patient...God heard you the first time!!!

Peace and Blessings,
Kim

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