

2 Thessalonians 3:13

But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary in doing good.

I think it's safe to say that pretty much all Christians want to do awesome things for the Lord. We read in the bible all these wonderful stories of those who the Lord has used to do great things. Like Abraham, who is known as the father of faith.

† *And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had while still uncircumcised, that he might be the father of all those who believe, though they are uncircumcised, that righteousness might be imputed to them also.*
Romans 4:11

Or, what about King David, known as a man after God's own heart.

† *And when He had removed him, He raised up for them David as king, to whom also He gave testimony and said, 'I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after My own heart, who will do all My will.'* **Acts 13:22**

Or it could be Moses who wandered the desert for 40 years leading the Children of Israel to the Promised Land, and is known as the humblest man.

† *Now the man Moses was very humble, more than all men who were on the face of the earth.* **Numbers 12:3**

One more, what about Paul, who shared the gospel and followed Jesus so much that he said:

† *Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.* **1 Corinthians 11:1**

We read of these men and others in the bible and think that we can never be as great as they are, or that God will never use me this way.

Really? I was reminded of one thing in the book of John, in chapter 7.

† *1 After these things Jesus walked in Galilee; for He did not want to walk in Judea, because the Jews sought to kill Him. 2 Now the Jews' Feast of Tabernacles was at hand.* **John 7:1-2**

Did you know that between verses one (1) and two (2) that there is about a six month gap of time? In the other gospels, it does talk about a few things that happened during this six month period.

Yet, we read though the bible, which tells of all these wonderful things that happened in peoples lives and how God had used them, yet we tend to forget that everything we read about them is all a very small portion of their lives.

If you think about it, Abraham was 75 when we first read of him in Genesis chapter 12 and we read of 100 years of his life up to chapter 25.

† ***So Abram departed as the LORD had spoken to him, and Lot went with him. And Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. Genesis 12:4***

† ***This is the sum of the years of Abraham's life which he lived: one hundred and seventy-five years. Genesis 25:7***

13 chapters and 100 years, and how many stories are told about him, or how much time does each story cover? Not to mention the first 75 years of Abraham's life that we know very little about. Maybe 5-10% of that time or just a few years in total? But if you think about it, that would leave 90+ years of Abraham's life that we do not read about. The same is true of all the other stories in the bible. We read of awesome things God does in people's lives, but it only covers a small portion of their life.

So, what about all those other years in these peoples lives, what were they doing?

I think it would be safe to say that they were living normal lives like you and I do. Normal everyday things, like having jobs, and a family and friends and a home. They lived life as regular people. No one was strutting around like a peacock saying how great they were. Even after God had done great things in their life, they still went back and lived normal lives. Abraham had a son at 100... but for 75 years after that he raised his son, had a family (more children) and a home and a business just like normal folks do.

So, what does all this mean for us today? I think James put's it best when he said:

† ***Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit. James 5:17-18***

Elijah was a normal man that God used. You are a normal man or woman that God will use to do great things for His name. But don't expect great things to flow from you each and every day. We don't read of that happening with anyone in the bible, other than Jesus. Everyone else had normal lives, and God used them at certain times in their lives to glorify Himself.

Also think of how many godly men and women have lived on this earth over the last 6000 years. Trillions of them! Yet how many are recorded in the bible?

Yes we are all normal people that God has put here on this earth, and we all will live normal lives, and God will use us all to do wonderful things for Him. But if you don't see some miracle

of God being manifested through you in an awesome way today, that's ok, because you are just a normal person, with a normal life, just like everyone else is who walked this earth. So don't be discouraged, but rather rejoice that your name is written in the Lambs Book of Life, and if it is, God will use you, or maybe He already has and you won't realize it until you get to heaven.

† *Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven.* **Luke 10:20**