

Luke 9:59-62

Then He said to another, "Follow Me." But he said, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and preach the kingdom of God." And another also said, "Lord, I will follow You, but let me first go and bid them farewell who are at my house." But Jesus said to him, "No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."

When you read today's devotional verses you may think that Jesus is being kind of harsh here, especially with the guy who needs to go bury his father. But the truth is, his father was alive and well. It could have been several years before his father was even close to death.

So what about the second guy? Is Jesus being cold and cruel. No, not at all. This second guy probably would have taken several weeks or months to say good bye to everyone.

Simply, both of them were making excuses for not following Jesus. In their minds, they had more important things to do. When you have that kind of thinking, you truly don't want Jesus to be Lord of your life, you just want Him for fire insurance.

I mean if you think about it, what excuse do you really think that God would accept for you not giving your life for His Son Jesus Who died for you?

Even the enemy gives you all sorts of excuses why you can't give your life to Jesus right now.

One of the biggest lies is that you have plenty of time. So you wait, and wait and wait. While you do your heart gets harder and colder to the gospel.

What if I made excuses every time it came time for me to write the devotionals? Right, they would never get done.

† **Luke 12:16-20** *Then He spoke a parable to them, saying: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. And he thought within himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?' So he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry." ' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?'*

This verse is not talking about salvation, but still it gets the point across that you never know when your time is up, once it is, there are no more excuses.

Maybe you are a Christian, but you have been making excuses for what you know the Lord is calling you to do. What is really more important than being obedient to our Savior?

† **Luke 14:16-18** *Then He said to him, "A certain man gave a great supper and invited many, and sent his servant at supper time to say to those who were invited, 'Come, for all things are now ready.' But they all with one accord began to make excuses. The*

first said to him, 'I have bought a piece of ground, and I must go and see it. I ask you to have me excused.'

The Lord wants to do wonderful things for you and you are telling you can't right now because you need to do what instead?

I've said this before and I'll say it again, "Giving God excuses is the same things as saying no to Him."

† **1 John 2:28 (MSG)** *And now, children, stay with Christ. Live deeply in Christ. Then we'll be ready for him when he appears, ready to receive him with open arms, with no cause for red-faced guilt or lame excuses when he arrives.*