Proverbs 19:1 (NLT2)

Better to be poor and honest than to be dishonest and a fool.

"So, how you doing today?" We are asked that all the time, and what's our go to, generic answer? *"I'm doing good."* or *"I'm fine."*

We have all said it or something like it, but how many times is it not true? How many times have you said that, and in reality your life, marriage, job, or family are falling apart? Think about it, how different would life and people be if we were all honest when we were asked that question? What if you answered with,

"I'm really struggling right now in my walk with the Lord."

Or

"Man, my marriage is falling apart, and I don't know what to do."

Or could it be,

"I'm about to lose my job and I don't know how I will make it if I do."

If we were truly honest when we are asked that question, how much do you think it would help others out? I think it would help a lot, because then others would realize that it's okay not to be okay. Yet we try to be these strong Christians and make others think we can take on the world, when in reality, our world is falling apart.

Now, I'm not talking about being a hypochondriac when we answer that question. I know there are those you just hate to ask how they are doing, because they are drama queens (or kings). No, I'm talking about being real with one another. We are even instructed to pray for each other.

- ✞ **James 5:16** ***Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.***

But how can we pray for one another if we are not honest with one another.

But then there are times when everything is good, in those cases don't try to make something up, but be honest because it's ok to be ok. I know there have been times when I'm in a group and many times I have nothing to be prayed for, and they would try to get something out of me. It doesn't make you super spiritual if you have no prayer request, it makes you blessed at that time in the Lord. So, why complain that it will rain someday when you have blue skies right now.

So just rejoice with those who have no prayer requests, because there will come a time when they will need your prayers. But right now they just need you to rejoice with them in God's blessing.

- **Philippians 4:12** ***I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.***

Also be honest with others, so that they can pray with you and for you. Also so that you can pray for them as well.

- **Romans 12:15** ***Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.***

- **Jude 1:20-23 (NLT2)** ***But you, dear friends, must build each other up in your most holy faith, pray in the power of the Holy Spirit, and await the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will bring you eternal life. In this way, you will keep yourselves safe in God's love. And you must show mercy to those whose faith is wavering. Rescue others by snatching them from the flames of judgment. Show mercy to still others, but do so with great caution, hating the sins that contaminate their lives.***