

“Finding God in our Busyness”

“Abide in me...” (John 15:4)

Recently I went out for a late afternoon run. I was so frustrated. I was mad that I really didn't have time for this run. I was mad that I had so much going on in my life that I always seem to sprint from one thing to the next. And I was especially mad about coaching my son Tyler's baseball teams.

Yes, teams...he is on two teams and I help coach both of them. We had practices and games scheduled almost every night for the next two weeks including the weekends. That particular night, I was squeezing in my run just in time to get to baseball practice.

Then, as I was running, a strange thing happened. I went from being angry, to hearing God say “Abide in me”, “Abide in me”.

Earlier that week, I had been reading *My Utmost for His Highest*. The devo was based on John 15:4, “Abide in me...”. Oswald Chambers said, “Abide in me...in intellectual matters, in money matters, in every one of the matters that make human life what it is. Our lives are not made up of only one neatly confined area. Think of the things that take you out of the position of abiding in Christ. You say, “Yes Lord, just a minute – I still have this to do. Yes, I will abide as soon as this is finished, or as soon as this week is over. I will abide then. Make the determination to abide in Jesus wherever you are now and wherever you may be placed in the future.”

And then it hit me. Coaching baseball is not just another thing on my schedule! It's “abiding in Christ!” It's an opportunity to have GREAT impact on a bunch of kids and their parents. God said to me in my spirit, “this is not busyness; I put this in your life! It's not just “work” to be accomplished. It's an opportunity to “abide in me”!

It changed my whole outlook on coaching baseball. **And our work is exactly the same!** We say, yes Lord, just a minute – I have this to do at work. Yes, I will abide as soon as this project is finished, or as soon as this week is over. I will abide then.

So what is the takeaway here? Before we try to “solve” the work/life balance problem that haunts us all, why don't we first deal with our busyness by **simply embracing it!** Let's take our work, our spouses, our kids, our life...and let's “abide in Christ” as we live through it.

A Work Prayer

Father, give us the ability to see our work differently. Give us the ability to simply embrace our busyness before we try to manage it. Give us the ability to see each task, each conversation, and each decision as an opportunity to “abide in you”. Amen

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