

Getting Into God's Playbook

John 12:26 *“If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will answer.”*

In the game of football, players who are often written into their coach's playbook, to make the big plays, are those who know how to play their position well. They are where they're supposed to be when the ball is given to them. They must not only know their position well but know how to position themselves to make the great plays. When a coach recognizes their ability to consistently make the plays, they become an integral part of His playbook.

In Christ, we have all been given positions, ministries, gifts, and talents that make up our calling in God. We all have parts to play in the game of life. God desires to use us according to our individual abilities, both natural and spiritual, He has given to us. The more committed we are to playing according to His playbook, the more opportunities we will have to make the great plays. He wants to set up plays that fit the person He has uniquely fashioned us to be. Jesus alluded to this in the above Scripture where He said, *“where I am, there My servant will be also.”* What Jesus is saying is that He expects us to be in position, so that we can handle the ball when given to us. Do you desire divine appointments, where the hand of God is visibly manifested for you to work alongside Him? If so, God will set divine appointments in place for you.

Years ago, while reading a book my wife was proofing for an evangelist friend, I was amazed by the vast number of divine appointments he was having. From witnessing and leading Pro-athletes to Christ to avoiding secret service agents so he could give a word to Presidents, he was having one divine encounter after another. As I pondered this, I heard the Lord whisper, *“It's because he's always obedient to be where I'm working in his field of harvest.”* Jesus said to His disciples after having a divine appointment with the woman at the well, *“Do you not say, ‘There are still four months then comes the harvest’? Behold, I say, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest!”*

Each of us has been given a harvest field to work in according to the grace and natural abilities we've been given. Your harvest field is your everyday life that involves, work, school, play, shopping, your neighborhood, and anything else that comes your way. As we look up to see where the Lord is working, divine appointments come our way. When we are faithful to serve God in the position, He has ordained for us, we are set to make great plays as He recognizes our obedience and desire to be written into His playbook. The Lord is waiting for you to take your harvest field seriously. He desires nothing more than to get you into His playbook by setting up some great plays specifically designed for the gifts and talents He's given you.

Matthew 9:37-38 *Then He said to His disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few.³⁸ Therefore, pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.”*

The dynamic of God is that He is always at work and involved in making plans to bring forth greater kingdom dimensions, not only in our lives but in the people, He puts in our paths. The question is, are we sitting on the bench watching others make the plays or are we in the game making great plays for God? Do we desire to be written into God's playbook or are we satisfied with sitting on the bench? It is up to us! It's our choice.

Prayer

Father, I pray for wisdom from above as I go forth into Your harvest field. Open my eyes to all that is around me that I might see where You're already at work on my right and left. Allow the gifts and talents You have given to be used for Your glory.

Poem: The Harvest Field

Looking upward, sensing the hand of God over all, we pursue.
Looking inward, we question, "What's our part in the harvest?"
Looking outward, the harvest ripe for picking stands in full view.
Looking forward faith arises, as we gain vision and understanding.
Looking backward, sensing the loss of time wasted, we woo.

Ready and willing, we're shown how to labor, unharnessed.
With inventory tallied; talents, and gifts, He uses for harvest.
With sense of purpose rising within, we commit to Him above.
From wisdom above, treasures given are employed.
Shown purpose for what's given, fruit comes forth unspoiled.

Into His field, eyes wide open, to those around us, we see.
Pain and turmoil on the faces encountered, we labor to free.
Taking note, hopelessness rests on many walking aimlessly.
Hoping for care, those hungry, stand with signs, shamelessly.
Yes, the fields are white for harvest. Where are the laborers?

Dying to self, taking up His cross, vision, and purpose appear.
Seeing the needs before us, we ask, "What would Jesus do?"
Our part, not to question motive, but to trust in His guidance.
Committing ways to Him, He directs and chooses in alliance.
In obedience and faithfulness, forward we go into His harvest.

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Scriptures to Meditate Upon

1 Corinthians 12:4-11, Ephesians 4:7, Romans 12:3-8, 1 Peter 4:10, John 4:35, Proverbs 16:3, 9.

May the blessing of the Lord be with you as you go forth into your harvest field today. May your eyes be open to all that comes your