

“Having a Banner Year part II”
By Brother Kenneth Ray
January 29th, 2012

Having a "Banner Year" in Jesus. Not at work or financially or in the world but in our relationship with God. Doesn't mean you won't make mistakes or have battles. You are still going to have issues and problems; not everything is going to be great. Listen to the Holy Ghost when He wants us to step out of our comfort zone and do something. It's not about being comfortable, it's about making the right choices. Church, if you're comfortable, that means that God's not dealing with you. The righteous live by faith.

Brief references:

Daniel 3 The three Hebrew children that would not worship the golden image.

Daniel 6 Daniel prayed to God on his own, not waiting to come to church to do it.

In the military, they make you get up at 5:00 AM. Most people don't like getting up at 5:00 AM; that's not comfortable. When you get out of your comfort zone and do what the Holy Ghost would have you to do, then you realize that you will adjust to it, and it is not as bad as you thought.

When you are young in the faith, you learn basic Scriptures. As you grow in God, you learn that a lot of those Scriptures have layers, and you get a deeper understanding. The Word has milk (1 Peter 2:2), but there's also mashed potatoes, and steak (Hebrews 5:12-13).

No everything is expedient, but doing what God calls you to do is being productive. Baptism won't save you by itself. Come out of your comfort zone; use the ability that God has given you. We have different talents. God wants the job done right, and He has equipped us to do it.

Do you want a Banner Year or do you just be want to be able to boast?

Reference to people making excuses:

Luke 14:16-24 ...I have married a wife...

We all have different talents that benefit the whole group when we use them:

1 Timothy 4:13-16 ...Neglect not the gift that is in thee...

Sometimes God has to open our eyes for us to get out of our comfort zones:

2 Kings 6:15-17 ...the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw...

How I spend my time and money proves what I value and believe in. If sports, or fishing, is what I spend my time on, then you can see what's really important to me. If I spend my money

on bling or clothes, then you know what I really believe in. I read my Bible, because that's what's most important.

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17 ... Comfort your hearts, and stablish you in every good word and work.

Philippians 4:11 ... I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.

James 1:22-24 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: