

## **ARE YOU PREPARED TO SERVE AND MINISTER?**

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*Note, I wrote this brief article as I was thinking ahead to various Christian service and ministries opportunities ahead of me and my service/ministry team.*

To date, we've had an opportunity to attend several events, fellowship together and reach out some to those in need. Ahead of us, this month especially, we have several events where our acts of service will allow us to be in prime contact with those who need to know we care and that above all Christ loves and cares for them too. I'm speaking specifically about our events like SoulStock on May 18, 19, AL Baptist Children's Home on May 26, and last but certainly not least our monthly visit to the hospital to meet with, and pray with, family and friends of the sick who are in surgery or in ICU.

Here are several questions the Holy Spirit asks me as I get ready to embark on the aforementioned events:

1. Am I equipped and prepared to go to battle on someone's behalf to wage war against the enemy who is ever trying to rob the person I'm in contact with of their very soul? *Reference Eph. 6:10-17.*
2. Similar to #1, does Satan know my name; am I a threat to him? *Reference Acts 19:14-16.*
3. Have the trials and tribulations of my past made me a stronger Christian, which would be an asset (not a stumbling block) to one who may be struggling in an area? *Reference James 1:2-4.*
4. Am I prayed up? *Reference Matt. 17:14-21 and Eph. 6:18.*
5. Do I have The Word hid in my heart? *Reference Psalm 119:11.*
6. Having The Word in my heart, am I willing to share it and reach the lost and dying world? *Reference Mark 16:15.*

I have to admit that my answers, as I "penned" this, were not all good but I believe the Holy Spirit guided my every keystroke to encourage me to re-engage by shoring up the weaknesses in my own life (i.e., my walk with Christ) so I can be a blessing to others for the kingdom of our Lord and Savior.

If you too find that you have trouble responding affirmatively to these questions, then I ask that you join me as we prepare to speak and act as Christ would have us to during these events and those in the future as well.

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