

Twenty-One Day Fast: Day Six

Desert Walker

by Chris Boyd

This devotion is taken from a 'Celtic Daily Prayer' book I have. This story is from a section about the Desert Fathers.

It was said of Abba John the Short that he withdrew and lived in the desert at Scetis with an old man of Thebes. His abba, taking a piece of dry wood, planted it and said to him, "Water it every day with a bottle of water, until it bears fruit." Now the water was so far away that he had to leave in the evening and return the following morning. At the end of three years the wood came to life and bore fruit. The old man took some of the fruit and carried it to the church saying to the brethren, "Take and eat the fruit of obedience."

This has often been a challenge to me. I read this and think wow, who would do such a task. To collect water for three years and pour it on a bit of dead wood. You got to be kidding. Abba John just did as he was told and after persevering in what seems like a fool's errand, finally sees the result and has the fruit that his Abba intended to be produced.

Often God has us on a path that he is leading us down which appears the same as the story above. He maybe has asked us to do something or set before us a task. It may be to live a certain way or change something we do or don't do. Maybe it's to love someone who is difficult to love, or give up a habit which is harmful to us. Maybe it's to trust him more in our finances or to step out more to share our faith with others. Whatever it is, he has an end result that will produce fruit that will bless not only yourself and the rest of the body and the world – if it ever gets to fruition.

So take a few minutes and wait on him and ask him – "Father is there something that you have asked me to do that I need to walk out in faith" - Trusting that he knows the end result and the fruit that will come from it.

Exodus 19:3-8, Hebrews 5:7-10

PRAYER POINT: Pray that we as a body will hear God's direction for each step for us to reach His goal for us, that we would allow God to orchestrate our steps toward finding a new pastor and becoming the part of the body of Christ that He has called us to be.