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PREPARATION TAKES SEPARATION

In January of this year the Lord gave me two words. Preparation and Separation. I have learned that you can't have preparation without separation.

In order to know how to prepare physically, we have to take inventory of what we have and what we need. If we know a hurricane is coming (for those of us in Florida) we get water, batteries, candles, food supplies, gas for the generator and a multitude of other things knowing that we might be without power. This is a smart thing to do. There hadn't been a hurricane in our area for almost 40 years when three came back-to-back in 2004. After the first hurricane, the shelves were bare in the grocery stores, and some of the stores were unable to open up because they had not been prepared with a back up generator. The restaurants lost power and their food also. It was quite an experience going to the store and seeing the shelves empty.

Earlier this year we were told there would be a shortage of toilet paper because of COVID19. The shelves became bare for that, and as of this writing some stores don't allow you to buy more than a few rolls at a time. This is a basic necessity for everyone if you don't have a supply of catalogs and leaves to use (my humor).

But how do we prepare spiritually? We are in a season of great change in our country. I have never seen the church so split over an election and over the prophetic words that have come forth. How do we know what to do? How do we prepare if the one we voted for is not the one that gets into office? Will it affect our lives?

When I look at scripture, I see the early church coming together, praying, and then acting on what God spoke to them. They didn't rely on the government (it was their enemy) and they didn't rely on anyone but God. They had no choice. There were no programs in place until later that took care of the widows and the orphans. There were great needs then just like today. They didn't have the internet and they didn't have social media. They spent their time separated alone, praying, and listening to God. That is how they survived! Many were taken into captivity for their belief in Jesus and killed. There was a man after them named Saul that was doing great harm to the early church. I truly believe they prayed for him and that is why he had the Damascus Road experience and met Jesus face to face. What a conversion it was. From destroyer of the church to the apostle that wrote most of the New Testament. Even Saul (now named Paul) had to get alone with God and find out God's plan for HIS life. He didn't consult Peter, James or John. He went into the desert and talked with God. This separation time made him prepared for what his assignment was.

If you truly want to be prepared in this season that we are in, you absolutely must spend time alone with God. Block out all the chaos around you. Just pray, listen, and then act on what God says. If you don't get immediate instructions, then don't do anything until you do. Hasty decisions without God in them can lead to disaster. If someone gives you a word (prophecy) that doesn't agree with your spirit, then throw it out. Go with God my friends and you can never go wrong. Separate your self and prepare like you never have before, and you will get through the days ahead no matter what happens in your life. Keep the praise on and trust that God will see you through.