

## Don't force things

One of the most valuable lessons I have learned and I'm still learning in my walk with God is not to force things. If we have to force things, we are out of grace. The love and grace of God doesn't force things. If you force things, something is wrong because that is not the nature of God. God does not force, and if there is force, God is not the one doing it.

Have you been in a place where you try to fit a circular-shaped item into a square-shaped slot? It can be very frustrating, and if you keep forcing it, you can damage both the shape and the slot. If it does not fit, you should not be forcing it.

Have you been in a place where you think you have missed out, only to realize that what came up later is even better? Don't panic! Don't rush! The best is yet to come.

I have been in a place where a salesman told me to buy now and not to wait. He would say, " This is the only one that is left on the market, and if you don't buy now, you will lose out, or if you don't, someone will take it. This is a ploy that many use that will get you into a huge error. I usually respond that if it's gone, something better will come up for me. Well, if they do take it, God will provide for me something better. I refuse to force things or force myself.

One time, I was looking for a house, and I found one that I really liked. I was ready to pay, and someone took it. I was very disappointed, thinking I could not find one better. I was wrong! Long story long and long story short, the Lord opened a door for me to get a better house. It was perfect and made me forget the story of the previous house I missed out on. I forgot my disappointment when I found a better house that I did not think I could find. Thank You, Jesus.

The same has happened to me across the board on many other things, such as buying a car, where I was told, " There will never be a better car. This was it. Lies! Not true!

If you are trusting God, no need to worry or stress! I have learned, and I'm learning to trust God for the best that is ahead of me if I miss out on something today. What I will get in the future will only be better. He will create one for me. This helps me to be patient and trust God. There will always be good and better things ahead of us. Don't panic! Don't force things.

*1 Samuel 13:12-14 Therefore said I, The Philistines will come down now upon me to Gilgal, and I have not made supplication unto the LORD: I forced myself therefore, and offered a burnt offering. 13 And Samuel*

*said to Saul, Thou hast done foolishly: thou hast not kept the commandment of the LORD thy God, which he commanded thee: for now would the LORD have established thy kingdom upon Israel for ever. 14 But now thy kingdom shall not continue: the LORD hath sought him a man after his own heart, and the LORD hath commanded him to be captain over his people, because thou hast not kept that which the LORD commanded thee.*

- a) King Saul had been instructed to wait for Samuel in Gilgal, but when Samuel did not come at the agreed time, King Saul did what was unacceptable—offering a burnt offering which was not to be done by kings but by the prophet Samuel.
  - i) **You cannot take another person’s behavior, good or bad, to excuse your own actions. We must do what is right regardless of how other people act.**
- b) Here is one key point in this. King Saul forced himself, and it cost him the throne. If he had not forced himself to do that which he knew was wrong (making a sacrifice at the altar that was not to be done by kings but priests), his Kingdom would have been established forever.
  - i) He had no peace, yet he forced himself. This shows that he knew what he was doing was not right, and it did not sit well with him.
- c) What we learn from these passages is to **NEVER FORCE** yourself. If you have no peace, don't do it. Don't go against the peace of God on the inside of you. For one to force himself, he has to have departed and left peace—the umpire that helps us in making sound and godly decisions (Colossians 3:15). We need to let the peace of God in our hearts to rule like an umpire. An Umpire makes calls on which direction to go and who made the point.
- d) Do not be pressured into action. God does not pressure you into a decision. Pressure is not God nor of God.

**Grace and peace go together.**

Romans 1:7 *To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: **Grace to you and peace** from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

- a) 1 Corinthians 1:13; 2 Corinthians 1:2; Galatians 1:3; Ephesians 1:2; Philippians 1:2; Colossians 1:2; 1 Thessalonians 1:1; 2 Thessalonians 1:2; 1 Timothy 1:2; Titus 1:4; Philemon 1:3; 1 Peter 1:2; 2 John 1:3; Revelation 1:4.
- b) If you have left peace, you have left the grace of God (God's unconditional power, enabling, provision), and this will not yield good and godly fruit but frustration.

- c) We need to be sure we do not leave peace because if we do, we have left grace. No peace-  
No grace.
- d) If you have to force things, you have to back off and stand down. God doesn't force things. This  
does not mean to be passive, though.

When we force things, we get out of the will of God, and the following could be the result:

- 1) No fruit
- 2) No peace and no grace
- 3) No resources/finances or Finances are spent with no return.
- 4) Frustration
- 5) Too much time taken with no return.
- 6) Having to force things.
- 7) Pressure to act