

# COMMENTARY

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## Abnormally Normal Christian

Hello, my dearest partners in ministry! What a beautiful Spring we are having, now that the waterworks have subsided slightly! It feels as though those cold January and February days were worth it.

We have been feeling the love here in ministry at Harvest House Soup Kitchen. We recently partnered with our fourth local business that gives us their food and supplies daily. Last week nine Crewmembers from our local Home Depot came to help us serve meals to our guests. We believe businesses and local groups are an important partner, and making those connections can help further the kingdom of God. Planting, Watering and Harvesting are all important steps to salvation.

For the longest time I watched my father and mother minister - those are some of my first memories. Imagine what a gift that is to a child, to be raised all through his formative years in a household with a mother and father professing Jesus and teaching it as well. Luke tells us, "The servant who knows what his master wants him to do, but does not get himself ready and do it, will be punished with a heavy whipping. But the servant who does not know what his master wants, and yet does something for which he deserves a whipping, will be punished with a

light whipping. Much is required from the person to whom much is given; much more is required from the person to whom much more is given. (Luke 12:47-48 GNT)

Aaron the child (me!) was given much. A home filled with the Holy Spirit had been given, and with that entrusted in me, God wants me to do something with it.

Imagine a gift for a loved one.

You knew this was the perfect gift, you saved up, you were excited to give it to them, but when they opened it, they didn't seem too happy about it.

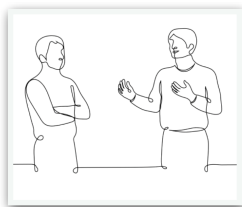
When you ask, they say, "It's nice, thank you." But that the way it is with the gifts and blessings God

has given you?

What are some of our most treasured blessings?

My family is at the top. Instead of complaining about my kids, or my wife, shouldn't I be thanking Him for the gift I do have? My perspective must take into account the things I have been gifted with! In serving God I've come to realize my life is not my own. Jesus bought me, and paid a price for me - now I live for Him.

Does that mean life isn't fun anymore? *Au contraire, Mesdames et Messieurs*, God has given me life more abundantly! He has put a new song in my heart, after much heartache and loss this past year. I must take this message of fulfillment of a broken and healed heart, to my



Sow the seed...

"For what is our hope, our joy, or the crown in which we will glory in the presence of our Lord Jesus when He comes? Is it not you?"

Paul, 1 Thessalonians 2:19

Life is full of beauty. Notice it.

Notice the bumble bee,  
the small child,  
and the smiling faces.

Smell the rain,  
and feel the wind.

Live your life  
to the fullest potential,  
and fight for your dreams.

Ashley Smith

A dream you dream alone  
is only a dream.  
A dream you dream together  
is reality.

John Lennon

Good parenting give headaches  
but bad parenting  
gives heartaches.

Shiv Khara

For God has not given us  
a spirit of fear,  
but of power and of love  
and of a sound mind."

Paul, 2 Timothy 1:7

How beautiful is the rain!  
After the dust and the heat,  
In the broad and fiery street,  
In the narrow lane,  
How beautiful is the rain!

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

## *Make a plan with Him for your future*

### Community.

God is calling you, much like Jesus called His disciples. ‘One day as Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, He saw Simon and his brother Andrew throwing a net into the water, for they fished for a living. Jesus called out to them, “Come, follow Me, and I will show you how to fish for people!” And they left their nets at once and followed Him. A little farther up the shore Jesus saw Zebedee’s sons, James and John, in a boat repairing their nets. He called them at once, and they also followed him, leaving their father, Zebedee, in the boat with the hired men.’

*(Mark 1:16-20)*

Jesus called to them, and it says, “they left their nets at once.” We can get very comfortable here in America. It is easy to sit back and watch your favorite preacher and feed on the word that way, but God is calling us like He called the fishermen, “Drop your life and follow Me.” What is your testimony? What is your mission? Have you made a five year goal for Christ?

When my wife Nicole and I wanted to buy a house we sat down to make a plan, following my dad’s advice, “Aaron, take care of the pennies and the dollars will take care of themselves.” Meaning, carefully keep track of your spending. Well, we made a five year plan, so that we could buy a house. Within two years we bought our first house! Imagine taking your following Jesus so seriously

that you made a five year plan for the unsaved around you in your life?

Is there someone in your world that is a really nice person, but they don’t know Jesus? They are your ministry.

Your kids, they are your ministry. Here’s a tip on how to minister - use the opportunities of daily life. I got after my daughter Hannah at the dinner table because she had her phone at the table. Nicole quietly cleared her throat, while pointing down at my own hand. Looking down, I was surprised to notice that I had a phone in my own hand! How’d that get there??

What a hypocrite at times I can be.  
What I do is what they see.

The same goes for those we meet everyday. What does your life say to the unsaved? To the world? That scripture, “to whom much is given, much is required,” applies to all of us. Look around, we are drenched with blessings: You. Are. A. Minister. Of. Jesus. Christ! We have been given so much. Our blessings are blessings only a King could provide.

Take a moment and see His hand on your life and then ask, “God, what do You require of me? I’m at the ready.”

Make a plan with Him for your future. You aren’t too young or old, poor or rich. He put you where you are, to be salt & light. Let His light shine.

I love you, thank you for reading my heart for the body of Christ

*Aaron*

The day of fortune  
is like a harvest day,  
We must be busy when the corn is ripe.  
Torquato Tasso

In every pang that rends the heart  
the Man of Sorrows has a part.  
Michael Bruce

You must give to get, You must sow the  
seed, before you can reap the harvest.  
Scott Reed

Whatever you do, work heartily,  
as for the Lord and not for men,  
knowing that from the Lord you will  
receive the inheritance as your reward.  
You are serving the Lord Christ.  
Paul, Colossians 3:23-24

Some people walk in the rain,  
others just get wet.  
Roger Miller

We cannot live only for ourselves.  
A thousand fibers connect us with our  
fellow men; and among those fibers,  
as sympathetic threads,  
our actions run as causes,  
and they come back to us as effects.  
Herman Melville

It is only the farmer who faithfully  
plants seeds in the Spring,  
who reaps a harvest in the Autumn.  
B. C. Forbes

Talk unbelief,  
and you will have unbelief;  
but talk faith, and you will have faith.  
According to the seed sown  
will be the harvest.  
Ellen G. White

[God] is able to take your life,  
with all of the heartache,  
all of the pain, all of the regret,  
all of the missed opportunities,  
and use you for His glory.  
Charles R. Swindoll