

Step Up

“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the temple of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths.” - Isaiah 2:3 (NIV).

In this series we shall examine specific instances where God, in His mercy and love, has encouraged both sinner and saint to step up in obedience to the next level.

Mark Driskill¹ said:

“On and on we could go through the scripture seeing how God calls people to step up out of bondage and emptiness and into a new life then step out in faith to do great things for God.”

With this calling the person usually feels a deep conviction and has a desire to change. For change to be permanent, however, one must be willing to take personal responsibility for his or her actions (or inaction), and to be held accountable for same.

For many of us, as Driskill stated above, stepping up will mean breaking away from a bad habit which has kept us in bondage for a long time. It will require repentance and a personal commitment to take a new path in life, much to the surprise of some. In the words of Jesus, the exhortation is to **“Go and sin no more.”** (See John 8:11.)

For others, stepping up may in fact mean ‘getting’ up from an accepted position of defeat, ‘dusting themselves off,’ and having the courage to take one more step in faith with renewed expectation.

For the ‘brave-at-heart,’ taking a step up may mean overcoming the spirit of fear and finding the strength in Christ, to confront that situation which has caused them to remain enslaved to fear.

Yet for others, stepping up may takes them from a place of ‘emptiness’ into a discovery of divine purpose, and a desire to fulfil it.

Nevertheless, for all of the above, stepping up to the next level is an opportunity to begin anew. As you read the Holy Spirit may be speaking to you right now. Perhaps His comforting words are, “Neither do I condemn you. Now go and sin no more.”

Will you heed His voice? Be blessed.

Principles

- 1. God, in His mercy and love encourages both sinner and saint to step up, in obedience, to the next level.**

2. The call is accompanied by a deep conviction and desire to change.
3. In answering the call to step up, and in effecting that change in your life, you must take personal responsibility for your actions, and be held accountable for same.
4. Stepping up with God may mean different things to different people, but the common thread is that it provides an opportunity to begin anew.

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for your love and mercy towards me, a sinner. I truly repent of my sins which have kept me in bondage. I also pray for the strength to break free from every thing or person which I have made an idol in my life. Give me singleness of mind to accomplish Your will for my life, as I answer the call to step up with You to the next level. Give me knowledge, understanding and wisdom as I embark on this path of change. O Lord, I declare that the change in my life will be permanent, and that I am accountable to You for my actions. Give me a desire to study Your Word, so that I may develop a closer walk with You. I thank You for answered prayer, in Jesus name I pray with thanksgiving. Amen.

Memory Verse:

“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD...He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths.” - Isaiah 2:3 (NIV).

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Note:

1. Step up and step out by Mark Driskill. <https://christianfaithinamerica.com/2011/02/21/step-up-and-step-out/>