

Daily bread

Matthew 4:4 (NKJV) ¹

"But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'"

Dear Father,

I used to love just reading Your Word and meditating on it and...You know. And as I'm confronted with actuality, I see I've let all kinds of things come in the way. Whether they were or are important or not is not the issue. They have become stumbling blocks, hindrances: that's the problem.

Recently I've seen messages about "movements", "cults", "moves of God", "revivals" and what not. Albeit I think many of them are not of You at all, like the Oprah creed that poisons many gullible viewers, I'm not going in on each one of them. I'm not focused on hunting down the lies this time and currently I'm in no position for that.

But what I do notice: all these event-driven, entertainment-focused, signs and wonders-seeking tendencies are also present in my life. I am looking for something which I seem to be unable to find.

A passage about a spiritual famine came to my mind and it struck me.

Amos 8:11 (NKJV)

"Behold, the days are coming," says the Lord GOD,

"That I will send a famine on the land,

Not a famine of bread,

Nor a thirst for water,

But of hearing the words of the LORD."

This is what I have been experiencing for some time now. And I still am. Hungry for Your Word, yet I seem to be unable or unwilling to really let it enter and have its way in me. Amazing how this "fast food junk food-attitude" got a grip on me when it comes to Your Word. How did that happen?

I am sad. I feel it's been like this for a long time now. This feeling of being distracted. This feeling of being halfhearted. As if I'm starving. Though I want to change and I tried to², I see it takes much more than my sheer will power. All my efforts to redefine my priorities seem to have been of little avail. Holy Spirit, I need You. Yes Father, I need Your Holy Spirit. You not only give verve and wisdom in reading and meditating on Your Word but You also provide me with the power to apply it. Give me more of Your Holy Spirit. You say You will when I ask (Luke 11:13). So I boldly ask You, based on Your promise.

Don't let me drown in this sea of so called important things. Drag me out and lead me to the purifying, peace-giving, promise-fulfilling streams of Your Word. You are good, You are merciful. Thank You Father.

In Jesus' name.

¹ Deuteronomy 8:3

² "Regaining purified passion": February 13, 2007. "Love grammar": December 5, 2007.