

Hot dogs for Jesus?

Recently, my friend, Robert, asked me and the rest of the Filling Station gang if some weekend we'd be interested in going to the apartment complex where he works and ministering to the residents with music, fellowship and food. We all agreed, not knowing that it would be the very next weekend.

Mid-week Robert informed us that he had cleared it with his boss, and that everything was set up for the following Sunday. Friday night when we were all together, the questions started, "What kind of food are we serving?" "Do we have any food to serve?" "What time do we get started?" "What's the official plan?" With each question, Robert smiled and shrugged.

By Saturday night we teased Robert until we were doubled over, holding our stomachs in laughter. Finally, Robert spoke up, "I can just see you all now, following Jesus. 'But Jesus, where are we going?' 'Will anyone be waiting for us when we get there?' 'Will we have enough hot dogs to feed everyone?'" Suddenly, the teasing stopped, and we all looked at each other guiltily.

Sunday morning while lying in bed before church, praying, I realized that I owed both Robert and God an apology. How many times had I set off to show God's love to someone, only after making sure my plans were set, and my conditions were right?



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In John 14:16, Jesus tells His disciples that He "will ask the Father, and He [the Father] will send another Counselor—the Spirit of Truth." Again in John 14, verse 26, Jesus tells His disciples that "the Counselor, the Holy Spirit...will teach you all things."

That Sunday morning I was reminded that our Father does not send us out blindly, hoping that we'll figure things out on our own and report back to Him when we are finished. Instead, God gives us His plan, and invites us to walk beside Him as we carry it out.

Proverbs 3:5-6 says "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways, acknowledge Him, and He will direct your paths."

In case you're wondering, I did give Robert that much needed apology. He smiled and said I owed him nothing; he was only doing what God told him. And by the way, the fellowship that day was great! We had enough hot dogs to feed everyone, plenty of love, music and dancing. God is awesome!