

Don't you love it when the Holy Spirit orchestrates a Bible study for You? I know I do. Sometimes the study may be over the course of a few days before I can figure out exactly what the Lord is showing me. I am "listening" hard. I have my spiritual ears open. I am blessed, then I am wondering is this just for me or am I to share?

The first day of this study a verse stood out, **At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children.**

(Matthew 11:25 NIV) **What?** I really had to think about this. So many times in the Proverbs we are instructed to seek wisdom. What I realized is that the wisdom that we seek is His wisdom—a much higher wisdom. Not a letter-of-the-Law wisdom, not a wisdom like the Pharisees and Sadducees had, but we seek a wisdom that exceeds our own.

On the second day this was made more clear. I was lead to a page in a devotional—March 28th in My Utmost for His Highest. Oswald Chambers said, "Faith is not intelligent understanding, faith is deliberate commitment to a Person where I see no way....To put my view of His honor in place of what He is plainly impelling me to do is never right, although it may arise from a real desire to prevent Him being put to shame. When I have to weigh the pros and cons, and doubt and debate come in, I am bringing in an element that is not of God, and I come to the conclusion that the suggestion was not a right one....Loyalty to Jesus means I have to step out where I do not see anything." **Hmm-mm**, I am starting to see something here.

On the third day it's like **o-o-oh!** I get it now. I was lead to a long passage. I will try to summarize it, but I urge you to read it in your favorite Bible version, or several for that matter. 2 Samuel 6 is about the Ark being brought to Jerusalem. The Ark was associated with the presence of God which was once and should have been among His people. When David who had a heart for the Lord became King. He said, **"It is time to bring back the Ark of our God, for we neglected it during the reign of Saul."** (1 Chronicles 13:3 NLT) David intended to bring it back. Unfortunately, it wasn't transported correctly—by the instructions given by the Lord to Moses, which resulted in the death of Uzzah. Uzzah had reached out to steady it when the oxen caused it to be shaken. (*Man's ways of doing things are clearly not acceptable when God has given specific instructions.*) David was upset by what God did to Uzzah. Verse 9 says David was afraid of the Lord that day; so he left the Ark in the house of an Israelite—Obed-Edem. Obed-Edem and his entire household became immensely blessed! When David heard of this he decided to bring the Ark to the tabernacle he had built for it. **Wearing a linen ephod, David was dancing before the Lord with all his might, while he and all Israel were bringing up the ark of the Lord with shouts and the sound of trumpets.** (2 Samuel:14-15 NIV) David



was shamelessly celebrating, boldly, loudly and with all his soul. It is interesting to see the reaction of his wife when David returned home to bless his own house. The greeting he received from his wife was to mock and shame him for his “undignified” behavior. I love David’s answer, **David said to Michal, “It was before the Lord, who chose me rather than your father or anyone from his house when he appointed me ruler over the Lord’s people Israel—I will celebrate before the Lord. I will become even more undignified than this, and I will be humiliated in my own eyes. But by these slave girls you spoke of, I will be held in honor.”** (2 Samuel 6:21-22 NIV) David humbled himself and was not ashamed of what the Lord had appointed him to do.

We are devoted to a Person, our Lord. I am not devoted to my thoughts and analysis of what is proper. Faith requires that we not be overly cautious, but obedient to the promptings of our Holy Spirit, though the obedient will be subject to mocking and humiliation—the servant is not greater than his Master. What we do should also be done before the Lord with all our might. We may have to allow ourselves to be humiliated in our own eyes.