

Are You in Gear, Or Out of Gear

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world”, Matthew 28:19–20.

Let me start with an illustration. I do not think that there is a driver in this world who has not stopped behind another car at red traffic light.

The lights turn green, and the driver ahead of you finally manages to get the car into gear, and promptly stalls the engine and the traffic signal turns red.

They get the gear back into neutral. Start the engine and await the green signal. Then, and only then, does it occur to them they are not in gear, and until they are, they will go nowhere.

FRUSTRATION. Then you remember that the Bible teaches you to be tolerant, and you wonder if another word would that would be kinder, yet still express your feelings.

Unfortunately, there are many in the Churches today who constantly endeavour to get their Christian walk into gear, that when God says “Go”, they are ready to move immediately. Unfortunately, many are also like the driver at the beginning.

I have had the experience where one of the congregation has come to me after the service, and suggested that I should arrange for old Mr A, or poor frail old Mrs B to obtain new shoes, as the ones they were wearing were nearly worn out.

Asking how they knew, they told me that during the prayers they had looked around, and saw the need!

Friends, this guy is worse than the driver at the lights. He is at the petrol pump, but not filling the tank.

Then he is going to wonder why the car will not move, and I am there trying, in my mind, to find another word for FRUSTRATION.

John, recorded Jesus’ prophecy where Jesus proclaimed “I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth”, Revelation 3:15–16.

People are struggling with the same problems, day after day, year after year. Never showing signs of having fuel in their spiritual tank, and would love to have their favourite hymns renamed
Amazing Grace, How Interesting the Sound,

I am Fairly Certain That My Redeemer Liveth, and
What an Acquaintance We Have In Jesus.
Where He Leads Me, I Will Consider Following

Where would many people be today, if, when God said to Paul "Go", Paul had replied, "But God, the last camel went three minutes ago, and there isn't another one for three months".

How FRUSTRATED is God with us? He has given us a tutor to make life easier, "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you", John 14:26

Yet we wonder why we are not seeing Christians with their fuel tanks full, and their engines running ready to go when called to go.