

¹⁴ Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵ He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. Luke 4:14-15 NRSV

There is a story that goes like this:

A boy told his father, "Dad, if three frogs were sitting on a limb that hung over a pool, and one frog decided to jump off into the pool, how many frogs would be left on the limb?"

The dad replied, "Two."

"No," the son replied. "There are three frogs and one decides to jump, how many are left?"

The dad said, "Oh, I get it, if one decides to jump, the others would too. So there are none left."

The boy said, "No dad, the answer is three. The frog only DECIDED to jump."

This story humorously points out that yes, we make decisions all the time, but it's the acting on them which REALLY gets you anywhere. In one gym class in the school pool, I decided to get in line for a back flip off the diving board. When I got the end of the board I froze. It took the help (and yelling) of my gym teacher to finally get me off the diving board. My decision meant nothing until I actually went off the diving board. The longer I froze and didn't do that back flip the worst it got. A very different experience took place when we visited an amusement park and I decided to go a roller coaster the first time in my life when I was about forty. My daughter was more nervous for me and kept asking me if I was going to change my mind. I did not. Decision made and executed. It was something I was glad I did.

In the scripture from Luke we find Jesus had just returned from his time in the wilderness," filled with power of the "spirit." It is obvious Jesus has decided to start his public ministry, by going out to the synagogues, and people are beginning to react. Later in the chapter he goes to his hometown and the results are not same when he made the decision to go in out to synagogues in the first place. The main point though is that Jesus acted on his decision to do God's will. We know from the Bible that choice was not always easy but it certainly brought forth a mighty result.

Where in your life is God calling you to act, you've said yes, and you haven't acted on that call? Someone put it this way;

"Someone made the wise comment: "To linger is to court ruin. Delay is the craftiest net of Satan. It is the terrible pitfall, out of which there are rare escapes" (Henry Law). When God speaks to us (and we're certain it is God) it's imperative to obey Him without delay."

So remember the story of the frog the beginning of this thought. He needed to do more than just "decide" to jump. Now it's YOUR TURN!

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