

They!

*⁴¹ So **THEY** took away the stone. (John 11: 39-41)*

I thank God for you, all those who assist in bringing God's purpose to pass. Usually these are the people who, in quiet obedience, follow Jesus' instructions without question, and help others achieve their divine destiny. They don't make excuses nor give reasons why something cannot be done. Here are some other observations about them, along with some of the qualities they may possess:

1. They are usually 'nameless' in the story and not much is said about them.
2. They operate in the background and are not 'up front' grabbing the 'limelight.'
3. They are Jesus' true disciples.
4. They hardly ever look for praise from others.
5. They do not always get the 'thanks' that they deserve.
6. They are about 'service' and not 'self' – true givers!
7. They operate by faith and put their complete trust in God.
8. They look beyond present circumstances – problems, obstacles and impossibilities.
9. They hardly ever complain or murmur about the negatives!
10. They hear the voice of God and not the voice of man!
11. They are true believers who obey and ACT on the Word of God, and not man! They JUST DO IT!
12. They are usually good team players, and don't have a problem working together with others to achieve God's divine plan. They don't try to 'go it alone' to get 'self-praise' and 'self-glory.' Oouch!
13. They are not about creating confusion and strife among other believers! Double Oooouch! LOL.
14. They are busy waiting upon God, and are always in the **right place** ready to hear from Him!

Jesus gave the instruction, *"Take away the stone."* And 'they' sprang into action. They took away the stone. No questions. No comments. They didn't, like Martha, remind Jesus about Lazarus' condition. They flow with every Word that came out of the mouth of Jesus!

I believe that they heard the conversation between Martha and Jesus:

"Take away the stone," he said.

"But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odour, for he has been there four days."

⁴⁰ Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?"

⁴¹ *So they took away the stone. (John 11: 39-41)*

‘They,’ who outnumbered Jesus, could have easily agreed with Martha and refuse to follow Jesus’ instructions because Lazarus was already dead for four days. They could have rebelled against God’s plan for Lazarus! But they didn’t. THEY OBEYED THE WORD OF GOD!

They took away the stone. They worked together to accomplish the mammoth task of moving the stone, a feat which could not have been accomplished by any one man. Remember Sampson was already dead! So, blending in with the crowd –working in the background with others to accomplish God’s plan – is sometimes necessary. Although man may not always recognizes your good works...God does!

Today, I salute you! You are indeed a ‘miracle mover!’ Your role, although overlooked, is essential, at times, for the miracle of God to happen in someone else’s life. Yes, God need us to partner with Him on this earth to fulfil His purpose. If the stone was not rolled away by the help of these ‘nameless’ and ‘obedient’ souls, no one would have seen Lazarus ‘coming forth!’ No one would have seen the glory of God, and believe in His Son Jesus. I thank you for being you, and for bringing others to Jesus. Take a bow!

Heavenly Father,

“I thank You for all those ‘in the crowd’ who assist in bringing Your purpose to pass. Father, they often work selflessly and quietly in the background. They do not complain nor murmur, but obediently and joyfully help others fulfil Your divine destiny. They are co-labourers with Christ! O Lord, they are selfless givers of their talents, time, money and love, and I pray for a special blessing upon their lives. May they never grow weary in well-doing and may they reap their bountiful harvests in due season. Increase their faith and strengthen their resolve! May your anointing and grace continue to rest upon them. In Jesus’ mighty name I pray with thanksgiving. Amen.”

Colossians 3:23-24 (NIV):

“²³ Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, ²⁴ since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.”