

Compete for what? I am not like you.

In our world today is there so much competition. Why??
On social media, you are always asked to vote, Vote for the best.
For the same song you're asked who sung it better,
for the same outfit you're asked who wore it better,
for the same dance you're asked who danced it better.
Why? What difference does it make.
Appreciate our differences.

Family gatherings,
Who made the best dish, the best cake
Whose BBQ taste the best
Who has the most family members present
Who has the most kids, grandkids
Why?

In our church
For those that remember
What auxiliary raise the most money
Which Sunday school class collected the highest offering
Which Sunday school class had the most in attendance
Who brought the most guest
Why?

Most of the times it out of fun and can be fun
But sometimes the competition can change things, and what was
meant to be fun is no longer funny or fun.

It turns into people not wanting to participate in things because
they are going to judged. They are going to be compared to
someone else. Will not be accepted for who they are. Or should I
say, they question being themselves because they do not look
like, or sound like that other person. You know who I'm talking
about, that other person.

I wanted to share this with someone who might be listening, who thinks that they are not competent enough to do what God is wanting or waiting for them to do. They feel they are not educated enough, they feel they are not bible smart enough, haven't been saved long enough, don't know the scriptures well enough. They are just not enough.

God has created and shaped each of us according to his purpose, we are the work of the potter's hand. So, rather than wish we were someone else, we should embrace how God has made us, and be that to the best of our ability. Ultimately, it's not how talented we are or are not that matters to God. It's what we do with what he has given us.

LORD, you are our Father.
We are the clay, you are the potter;
we are all the work of your hand. (Isaiah 64:8 NIV)

You mold us, make us, refines, shape us, and sometimes you even break us when necessary.

You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and you knit me together in my mother's womb. Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex. Your workmanship is marvelous. How well I know it. Psalms 139:13-14 NLT

God, You gave some thought to each person you created. You set us apart before we were born. You knew how we were going to look, you gave us likes and dislikes, you gave us talents. You knew what our insecurities were going to be, our dreams, imperfections and weaknesses. You even knew that we were going to think of some of them as flaws. But in your eyes, we were wonderfully made. Who am I to complain or feel bad. You carefully knitted each one of us together exactly how you wanted us to look and be. Wonderful, unique, and fearfully made. Thank you, God.

We are your chosen people, a royal priesthood, we are your special possession, so that we may declare the praises of you, who called us out of darkness to his wonderful light. 1 Peter 2:9

You pulled us into wonderful light. Yes, I am claiming my identity, I am a special gift from you, God, a Christian of royal priesthood made to serve others and spread your word. That's my purpose. That's our purpose. That's why you gave us individual gifts. Because everyone has a purpose. Why should I compete.

God gave each one of us our gifts. The world didn't give it to us, and the world can't take it away, but you can. We are not here to compete.

I come to encourage someone that might not believe their gift is enough. I can't pray like so and so, I sing like so and so, I preach like so and so. I can't teach like so and so. My words don't flow like so and so. Whatever the task is, you feel like someone can do it better. They can't!!!!

We are all unique in our own special way. Don't count what God gave you, just you, as not enough. We all bring an addition to the body of Christ. And all gifts are needed. You are needed. The way you do it, say it, think, bless it, is what is needed. Don't count your gift short. There is no room for competition.

How you bring something to the table might not be received as clearly as someone else bringing it to the table. How you pray might not be in a way that someone who is listening needs to hear it.

Here's an example. I just found out that a Deacon at my church and I have the same birthday. Does that make us the same. No. He is a man and I am a woman. We both have gray hair. His is twisted and mine is short and curly. Should we compete. NO. We both minister in

dance with flags. His flags have designs on them and mine are solid. Does that make his ministry better than mine. NO.

God made two people uniquely different to do the same thing, minister in dance with flags, in uniquely different ways all for his glory. To increase his kingdom. Why should there be competition.

Another example. When we started having all night prayer I use to come and listen to the same people pray over and over. Pastor Kim and Pastor Saundra along with some other faithful few. I wanted to pray but felt insecure about praying in public, I wasn't good enough. I can't pray like them. I can't pray that long.

It got to the point I felt convicted. I wasn't going to let the enemy win. I prayed and asked God to give me the confidence to pray. My answer, start writing your prayers out. Write what the holy spirit gives you to write and then pray what he gave to write. Until your confidence increases.

And I did. One of our Mother's were also encouraged, and she started writing out her prayers. Do you know that I was moved by Mother's prayers differently than I was moved by the other seasoned prayer warriors. She prayed from her heart, I prayed from mine and whoever else was praying was praying from theirs we all had a different way of praying, and we all had a different way of receiving what was prayed, but we were serving the same purpose. Praising God for his glory. And that's why you were made uniquely different.

There is a beef going on in the world between two rappers and a song was pinned "They Not Like Us". Not sure what the song is about. It was the title that struck me. My immediate response was

"We not like them".
I'm not like you
and you not like me.
And that's the way God intended it to be.

There are no two people on this earth that are exactly alike. Even identical twins are not identical. No two people, to my knowledge, have the exact same fingerprints, because God made us uniquely different.

Embrace that we are God's workmanship created to produce good works.

Embrace your gift.

Regardless of our strengths and weaknesses, our social standing or gender identity, we are all equally valued and valuable in God's eyes. We should not only embrace our differences but use them to build up others to further God's purposes on Earth. For this reason, only, we must remember that we are all part of one body in Christ - a body made up of individuals with great potential and power when we stand united together in love.

Each of us should use whatever gift we have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.
1 Peter 4:10

Only by cultivating what makes us special can we truly live up to the potential that God has given us, and only then can we experience the fullness of his love and grace. So let us all lift up our hearts and minds in praise of God's many blessings. God's grace is an individual gift uniquely given to each one of us. To use for his glory and only his glory.

They not like us.
We not like them
I'm not like you
And you are not like me.

You were uniquely, fearlessly and wonderfully made. By God.