

## Ponderings for the Prophets

Understanding comes little by little, like one piece of a puzzle at a time. Each piece comes with instructions to follow. Obedience to one opens the door to receiving the next piece. By the time we have all of the pieces, God has tested us and now is sure He can trust us to do what is needed to bring His Word to pass. This is one key for a Prophet to know that he is following God. This is also one reason the Lord leads us to do some things that seem ridiculous (at the time) without understanding. He must see that He has our trust and obedience completely. If we are tempted by pride to refuse to obey the little things, then we probably can't be trusted yet to obey the big things. Blind obedience is only offered by those who have given up their own life and are willing to live for, die for, and even be embarrassed and rejected for the Lord. Why would we do such things? Because He is the prize! We have tasted and know the addiction to His love. We have experienced the outcome of His purposes and truly know that All things do work together for good to those who love the Lord, and are called according to His purposes.

Yet there is a place of surrender beyond even that knowledge. It is the place where our hearts begin to join in oneness with the Lord's own heart. And our motives go beyond caring what is working only for our own good. We must grow to the place where our prayer is that ...All things work together for His good, not just ours. Our focus will change as our love grows, as we realize the greater good that God desires supersedes our own individual conception of good...just for self. It is my prayer that my heart will blend into His until all my purposes are in unity with His purpose.

-Sue Hampton