

# I AM THIRD “...When In Need”

**SO, IF GOD IS FIRST  
THAT MAKES EVERYONE ELSE TIED FOR SECOND  
AND I AM THIRD**

**The Bystander Effect has a tendency to obstruct the work of God.**

**Believe it or not, God calls inaction in the face of a situation where action is required, a SIN.**

*If anyone, then, **knows the good they ought to do** and doesn't do it, it is sin for them. **James 4:17 (NIV)***

**And by not acting, we are simply putting ourselves in SECOND PLACE, above those who are in need.**

*Jonathan said to his young armor-bearer, “Come, **let's go over** to the outpost of those uncircumcised fellows. **Perhaps** the LORD will act in our behalf. Nothing can hinder the LORD from saving, whether by many or by few.”*  
***“Do all that you have in mind,”** his armor-bearer said. “Go ahead; I am with you heart and soul.” Jonathan said, “Come, then; we will cross over toward the men and let them see us. If they say to us, ‘Wait there until we come to you,’ we will stay where we are and not go up to them. But if they say, ‘Come up to us,’ we will climb up, because that will be our sign that the LORD has given them into our hands.”*  
**1 Samuel 14:6-10 (NIV)**

*So both of them showed themselves to the Philistine outpost. “Look!” said the Philistines. “The Hebrews are crawling out of the holes they were hiding in.” The men of the outpost shouted to Jonathan and his armor-bearer, “Come up to us and we'll teach you a lesson.” So, Jonathan said to his armor-bearer, “Climb up after me; the LORD has given them into the hand of Israel.” Jonathan climbed up, using his hands and feet, with his armor-bearer right behind him. The Philistines fell before Jonathan, and his armor-*

*bearer followed and killed behind him. In that first attack Jonathan and his armor-bearer **killed some twenty men** in an area of about half an acre. **1 Samuel 14:11-14 (NIV)***

*Then panic struck **the whole army**—those in the camp and field, and those in the outposts and raiding parties—and the ground shook. **It was a panic sent by God.** Saul's lookouts at Gibeah in Benjamin saw the army melting away in all directions. Then Saul said to the men who were with him, "Muster the forces and see who has left us." When they did, it was Jonathan and his armor-bearer who were not there. **1 Samuel 14:15-17 (NIV)***

**Sometimes, it only takes the ACTION of ONE to overcome the INACTION of OTHERS!**

*For we are God's handiwork, **created in Christ Jesus to do good works**, which God **prepared in advance** for us to do. **Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)***