

It's What We Do

Week 2: Love Fights

#2/5

April 7 & 8, 2018

Pastor Jeff Bogue

WE INTRODUCED A NEW SERIES LAST WEEKEND WHEN WE TALKED ABOUT HOW JESUS, THROUGH HIS DEATH AND RESURRECTION, CHANGED WHEN WE RECEIVE HIS FORGIVENESS OF OUR SIN. THE BIBLE ALSO TEACHES US THAT WHEN WE RECEIVE GOD'S FORGIVENESS... OUR IDENTITY CHANGES.

- WE BECOME SALT & LIGHT
- WE BECOME AMBASSADORS
- WE BECOME JOINT HEIRS WITH CHRIST
- WE BECOME LIGHT
- WE BECOME PEOPLE OF SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY AND POWER
- **THE PEOPLE OF GOD**

GOD THEN VIEWS US AND INSTRUCTS US THROUGH THE GRID OF OUR NEW IDENTITY.

LET ME SHOW YOU AN EXAMPLE OF THIS:

2 CORINTHIANS 4,5,6 PG# 804

** I REALLY ENCOURAGE YOU TO READ ALL OF IT... BUT FOR TIME'S SAKE, I'M GOING TO WALK US THROUGH THIS MINDSET SHIFT THAT HAPPENS FOR CHRIST FOLLOWERS.

GOD EXPOSES HIS PERSPECTIVE TO HIS PEOPLE:

2 CORINTHIANS 4:4

THE GOD OF THIS AGE HAS **BLINDED THE MINDS** OF UNBELIEVERS, SO THAT THEY CANNOT SEE THE LIGHT OF THE GOSPEL THAT DISPLAYS THE GLORY OF CHRIST, WHO IS THE IMAGE OF GOD.

A CHRISTIAN BELIEVES THAT WE ARE SAVED FROM DARKNESS AND THAT OTHERS ARE STILL TRAPPED IN IT, NEEDING RESCUED BY CHRIST.

BECAUSE WE HAVE BEEN RESCUED BY GOD, THE PEOPLE OF GOD NOW WANT TO DO WHAT WAS DONE FOR US:

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5-6

FOR WHAT **WE PREACH** IS NOT OURSELVES, BUT **JESUS CHRIST AS LORD**, AND OURSELVES AS YOUR SERVANTS FOR JESUS' SAKE. FOR GOD, WHO SAID, "**LET LIGHT SHINE OUT OF DARKNESS,**" MADE HIS LIGHT SHINE IN OUR HEARTS.

BECAUSE WE HAVE BEEN RESCUED BY CHRIST, WE HAVE AGREED WITH GOD, THAT
THE RESCUING OF OUR SOULS IS THE MOST CRITICAL ISSUE FACING HUMANITY.

2 CORINTHIANS 4:16-18

THEREFORE WE DO NOT LOSE HEART. THOUGH OUTWARDLY WE ARE WASTING AWAY, YET
INWARDLY WE ARE BEING RENEWED DAY BY DAY. **FOR OUR LIGHT AND MOMENTARY
TROUBLES ARE ACHIEVING FOR US AN ETERNAL GLORY THAT FAR OUTWEIGHS THEM ALL. SO
WE FIX OUR EYES NOT ON WHAT IS SEEN, BUT ON WHAT IS UNSEEN, SINCE WHAT IS SEEN IS
TEMPORARY, BUT WHAT IS UNSEEN IS ETERNAL.**

2 CORINTHIANS 5:11

SINCE, THEN, WE KNOW WHAT IT IS TO FEAR THE LORD, **WE TRY TO PERSUADE OTHERS.**

AS CHRIST FOLLOWERS, WE ARE RESIGNED TO THESE SACRIFICES BECAUSE WE BELIEVE THERE
ARE **ETERNAL ISSUES AT STAKE...**

THE ETERNAL DESTINIES OF HUMAN SOULS ARE AT STAKE...

THEREFORE, THERE IS NOTHING MORE IMPORTANT TO THE FOLLOWER OF JESUS
THAN CONTENDING FOR THOSE SOULS!!

AS A CHRIST FOLLOWER I HAVE PLACED MY FAITH IN JESUS, AGREEING WITH HIM THAT HE IS
THE ONLY WAY OF SALVATION.

- **I WANT YOU TO DO THE SAME THING FOR THOSE I AM CALLED TO LOVE AND
REACH!**

**HIS DEEP LOVE FOR ME... COMPELS ME TO GIVE MY LIFE TO THIS EFFORT LIKE CHRIST DID
HIMSELF.**

2 CORINTHIANS 5:14-15

FOR **CHRIST'S LOVE COMPELS US**, BECAUSE WE ARE CONVINCED THAT ONE DIED FOR ALL, AND
THEREFORE ALL DIED. AND HE DIED FOR ALL, **THAT THOSE WHO LIVE SHOULD NO LONGER
LIVE FOR THEMSELVES BUT FOR HIM WHO DIED FOR THEM AND WAS RAISED AGAIN.**

IT THEN BECOMES MY PERSONAL LIFE MISSION TO OFFER TO OTHERS WHAT CHRIST OFFERED
TO ME:

2 CORINTHIANS 5:20

WE ARE THEREFORE **CHRIST'S AMBASSADORS**, AS THOUGH GOD WERE **MAKING HIS APPEAL THROUGH US**. WE **IMPLORE** YOU ON CHRIST'S BEHALF: **BE RECONCILED TO GOD**.

FOR THE CHRIST FOLLOWER, THE CALLING IS TO MAKE JESUS MAKE SENSE. TO TAKE THE GOOD NEWS AND THE BAD NEWS OF THE GOSPEL TO THOSE STILL TRAPPED IN SPIRITUAL DARKNESS. **IT'S WHAT WE DO! THIS IS NOT RADICAL, IT IS NATURAL IN GOD'S PERSPECTIVE.**

THIS IS THE CALLING OF EACH INDIVIDUAL BELIEVER –

2 TIMOTHY 4:5

BUT YOU, KEEP YOUR HEAD IN ALL SITUATIONS, ENDURE HARDSHIP, **DO THE WORK OF AN EVANGELIST**, DISCHARGE ALL OF THE DUTIES OF YOUR MINISTRY.

NOW, I REALIZE THERE ARE SEVERAL DIFFERENT WAYS THIS CONVERSATION CONNECTS TO A GROUP THIS SIZE:

FOR MANY HERE AT GRACE –

YOU ARE SIMPLY NEW TO FOLLOWING JESUS

- YOU ARE STILL IN A DISCOVERY PHASE OF YOUR JOURNEY WITH CHRIST.

PROBABLY THE BEST WAY FOR YOU TO EMBRACE THIS TEACHING IS GIVEN BY THE APOSTLE PETER.

1 PETER 3:15

BUT IN YOUR HEARTS REVERE CHRIST AS LORD. **ALWAYS BE PREPARED TO GIVE AN ANSWER TO EVERYONE WHO ASKS YOU TO GIVE THE REASON FOR THE HOPE THAT YOU HAVE**. BUT DO THIS WITH GENTLENESS AND RESPECT.

- JUST TELL YOUR STORY

OTHERS OF US WILL BATTLE -

BELOW: ONE SLIDE – 5 CLICKS

FEAR AND ANXIETY

- **START WITH PRAYER.**
- **"LOOK AT THE HARVEST."**
- **PRAY FOR 3. FOR GOD TO SHOW YOU WHO HE WANTS YOU TO BE AN AMBASSADOR TO**
- **"NO BRAINER MOMENT"**

OTHERS ARE WILLING, BUT -

BELOW: ONE SLIDE – 3 CLICKS

LACK EXPERIENCE

- **WORKSHOPS** - SOON WE'RE OFFERING SOME
- **TEAM UP** – THE LAST PERSON I LED TO CHRIST, PASTOR KEITH WAS WITH ME

FINALLY, THERE IS A GROUP OF US THAT STRUGGLE WITH -

BELOW: ONE SLIDE – 2 CLICKS

HARD HEARTS

JESUS SAYS IN MATTHEW 15 THAT THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO -

- **MATTHEW 15:8**

THESE PEOPLE HONOR ME WITH THEIR LIPS, BUT THEIR HEARTS ARE FAR FROM ME.

IF WE THINK OF OURSELVES AS CHRIST FOLLOWERS, BUT HAVE NO PASSION TO SEE THOSE TRAPPED IN THEIR SIN UNDERSTAND THE HEART AND MIND OF JESUS... OUR HEARTS ARE FAR FROM GOD.

SOME OF US COULD HAVE WRITTEN THE NOTES FOR THIS MESSAGE BEFORE WE EVEN WALKED INTO THE ROOM –

WHEN YOU HEARD ABOUT THE “GO AND DO CHALLENGE” YOU ALREADY KNEW WHAT IT WAS ABOUT...

YOU HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO THE TEACHINGS OF CHRIST, THE WORD OF GOD AND THE COMMANDS OF SCRIPTURE... AND THEY HAVE HAD NO EFFECT ON YOUR INTERACTIONS WITH PEOPLE OR YOUR COMPASSION FOR THEM.

I AM NOT TRYING TO GUILT TRIP YOU AND TALK YOU INTO PARTICIPATION...

I JUST WANT TO WARN YOU IN LOVE, THAT IF YOU HAVE NO AFFECTION FOR THE LOST, YOUR HEART IS DEEPLY DISCONNECTED FROM THE HEART OF CHRIST.

NO MATTER WHERE YOU FIND YOURSELF ON THIS SPECTRUM, WE WANT TO HELP YOU ADVANCE SPIRITUALLY.

THAT IS WHAT THESE BRACELETS ARE FOR...