

BLIND SPOTS

Character Counts – Part 3 of 4

“For from the very beginning God decided that those who came to him – and all along he knew who would – should become like his Son, so that his Son would be the first with many brothers.” Romans 8:29

“17 For the Lord is the Spirit, and wherever the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 18 So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image.” 2 Corinthians 3:17-18

“But when the Holy Spirit controls our lives, he will produce this kind of fruit in us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.” Galatians 5:22a

“19 When you follow the desires of your sinful nature rather than having the Holy Spirit be in control, the results are clear. Sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, 21 envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these...” Galatians 5:19-21

KEY TRUTH #1: When I am in not in control of my character, I will create **DESTRUCTION** and **HURT** in my life and the lives of others around me. When I choose to let God transform my character, my life is **HEALTHY**, and I add **VALUE** to others.

KEY QUESTION #1: Why do we have a hard time seeing ourselves the way that other people see us? It’s called our **BLIND SPOT**.

KEY TRUTH #2: Over time, if we keep **CHOOSING** not to see, we will no longer be able to **SEE**.

KEY QUESTION #2: Why would we **REFUSE** to see the truth about ourselves?

- **PAIN**
- **PRIDE**
- **FEAR**
- **LAZINESS**
- **STUBBORNNESS**
- **TRAUMA**

“12 How can I know all the sins lurking in my heart? Cleanse me from these hidden faults. 13 Keep your servant from deliberate sins! Don’t let them control me. Then I will be free of guilt and innocent of great sin. 14 May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.” Psalm 19:12-14

“1 Don’t criticize, and then you won’t be criticized. 2 For others will treat you as you treat them. 3 And why worry about a speck in the eye of a brother when you have a board in your own? 4 Should you say, ‘Friend, let me help you get that speck out of your eye,’ when you can’t even see because of the board in your own? 5 Hypocrite! First get rid of the board. Then you can see to help your brother.” Matthew 7:1-5

THREE TYPICAL RESPONSES TO A BLINDSPOT:

#1: **REJECT** it

#2: **ACKNOWLEDGE** it

#3: Allow God to help you get to the **ROOT** cause of the issue.

FOUR THINGS WE CAN DO TO LEARN TO ACCURATELY SEE OURSELVES:

FIRST: Know and believe and **ACCEPT** that you are completely and forever **LOVED** by God.

“So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus.” Romans 8:1

SECOND: Look at an accurate **MIRROR** of yourself.

“22 And remember, it’s a message to obey, not just to listen to.” Don’t just get those flashes of insight and walk away. He said, “Don’t fool yourself. 23 For if you just listen and don’t obey, he’s like a man who looks at his face in a mirror, 24 but as soon as he walks away, he can’t see himself anymore or remember what he looks like. 25 But if anyone keeps looking steadily into God’s law, God’s mirror for free people, he will not only remember it, but he will do what it says and God will greatly bless him in everything that he does.”

"17 You say, 'I'm rich with everything I want. I don't need a thing.' You don't realize that spiritually you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked. 18 My advice to you is to buy pure gold from me," Jesus says, "gold purified by fire. Because only then will you be rich. And to purchase from me white garments, clean and pure, so that you won't be naked and ashamed. And to get medicine from me to heal your eyes and to give you back your sight." Revelation 3:17-18

THIRD: Begin examining your relationships for **PATTERNS** of behavior.

FIVE QUESTIONS YOU NEED TO ASK YOURSELF OFTEN

- #1: What am I pretending not to **KNOW**?
- #2: What am I pretending is not a **PROBLEM**?
- #3: What am I pretending I've **OVERCOME**?
- #4: What do I think I'm good at, but others tell me I'm **NOT**?
- #5: What is it like on the **OTHER SIDE** of me?

FOUR: Establish a daily practice of **HUMILITY** before God.

"1 Have mercy on me, O God, because of your unfailing love; because of your great compassion, blot out the stain of my sins. 2 Wash me clean from my guilt. Purify me from my sin. 3 For I recognize my shameful deeds, they haunt me day and night. 4 Against you and you alone have I sinned. I have done what is evil in your sight. You will be proved right in what you say and your judgment against me is just. 5 For I was born a sinner. Yes, from the moment my mother conceived me, 6 but you desire honesty from the heart. So, you can teach me to be wise in my inmost being. 7 Purify me from my sins and I will be clean. Wash me and I will be whiter than snow. 8 Oh give me back my joy again. You've broken me, now let me rejoice. 9 Don't keep looking at my sins, remove the stain of my guilt. 10 Create in me a clean heart, oh God, renew a right spirit within me. 16 You would not be pleased with sacrifices or I would bring them. If I brought you a burnt offering, you would not accept it. 17 The sacrifice you want is a broken spirit, a broken and repentant heart, oh God, you will not despise." Psalm 51:1-10, 16-17