

I MESSED ME UP

DECEMBER 2, 2018

I. THREE THINGS GOD HAS FOR MESSED-UP ME

2 Corinthians 13:14 May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

1. THE GRACE OF JESUS CHRIST

A. The grace for salvation.

2 Corinthians 8:9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

B. The grace for weakness.

2 Corinthians 12:9-10 But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

- In our weakness, we find all we need in His grace.
- True strength is found when the weak look to Jesus.
- When we fight our weakness, we deny ourselves strength.
- When I am weak, then I am strong.

2. THE LOVE OF GOD

A. God's love comes to us.

1 John 4:8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

B. God's love comes through us.

2 Corinthians 13:11 Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you.

C. God's love is revealed through peace.

1 Corinthians 1:10 I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought.

- You are responsible for your response.
- Peace reveals that your heart has been changed by God's heart.
- Acts of restoration set us free from the prison of conflict.
- When you have done all you can do, you must release the other person and the conflict to Jesus.

D. Love is revealed through generosity.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

2 Corinthians 9:6-8 Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

- Generosity reveals that your heart has been changed by God's heart.
- Understanding stewardship relieves the overwhelming pressure of having to have it all together.
- Stewardship sets us free from the prison of selfishness.

3. THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

2 Corinthians 13:14 (MSG) The amazing grace of the Master, Jesus Christ, the extravagant love of God, the intimate friendship of the Holy Spirit, be with all of you.

2 Corinthians 3:17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

- *When we allow the Holy Spirit to be at work in our lives, it changes everything.*

A. Our fellowship with the Holy Spirit affects our messed-up relationships.

2 Corinthians 6:14 Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness?

- Our relationships determine our direction.

B. Our fellowship with the Holy Spirit affects our messed-up thoughts.

2 Corinthians 10:3-5 For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

- We must think about our thinking and pay attention to where we pay our attention.

C. Our fellowship with the Holy Spirit affects our messed-up attitudes.

2 Corinthians 10:7 You are judging by appearances. If anyone is confident that they belong to Christ, they should consider again that we belong to Christ just as much as they do.

- Judgment affects our judgment.

D. Our fellowship with the Holy Spirit affects our messed-up self-esteem.

2 Corinthians 10:12 We do not dare to classify or compare ourselves with some who commend themselves. When they measure themselves by themselves and compare themselves with themselves, they are not wise.

- Comparison is quicksand.