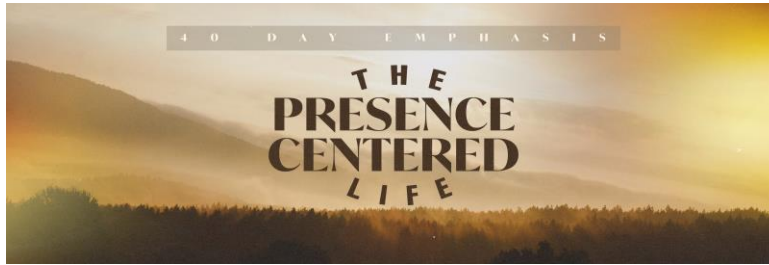


FELLOWSHIP NOTES ~ Sunday December 10th, 2023



Part 7: “Remaining in Christ” (Part 3) John 15:1-8

Spiritual Principle: The presence centered life is captured in Jesus’ call to His followers to remain in Him – a life-long calling intended to produce eternal results for God’s glory.

To Remain: To _____ in fellowship with Christ; to keep His commands; to follow in the example of Christ, becoming like Him more and more; to continue in Christ’s love (John 15:9; 8:31; 14:15,21, 23; 1 John 2:3, 9-11; 3:6).

God’s Pruning: Removing anything that would hinder the sap of His presence and power to flow into and through us; cutting away anything that limits righteousness and holiness necessary for good works through _____.

3 Important Principles from Heb. 12:5-6:

1. God is the _____ of the discipline.
2. God disciplines _____ believers.
3. God always acts out of _____.

Varying Degrees of God’s Loving Intervention:

1. _____: a “verbal” warning – Heb. 12:5b
2. _____: emotional anxiety, frustration or distress - Heb. 12:6a
3. _____: to cause excruciating pain – Heb. 12:6b



When it comes to Godly discipline, remember this...

1. God never _____ an innocent person to indirectly discipline a sinning person.
2. When God does discipline us, is it _____ out of meanness, impatience, or wrath.
3. God offers each of us _____ to respond to Him, right up to the moment we leave this earth.

Final Truths:

1. God wants to be in a continuing, growing, thriving and productive _____ with everyone who knows Him as Savior.
2. As your life bears the fruit of good works, God will invite you to remain more _____ with him because that's how He produces much fruit through you.

Practical Steps:

1. Make a daily appointment with God and keep it
2. Read and meditate on God's Word
3. Talk to God through prayer as you would a friend
4. Keep a record of your fellowship with God by using a spiritual journal (Fell. Café)
5. Seek to stay as close to Christ's bride (your church family) as you are to her bride groom (Jesus Christ).

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

"My son, do not take the Lord's discipline lightly or lose heart when you are reprovved by him, for the Lord disciplines the one he loves and punishes every son he receives."

Hebrews 12:5a-6

RESOURCES

IN FELLOWSHIP CAFÉ: Booklet: *Lifting Life's Greatest Load: How to Gain and Maintain a Clear Conscience* (Free)

Book: *Abide in Christ* by Andrew Murray
Spiritual Journals

AT THE TOWER BY THE WELCOME CENTER: Spiritual Cleansing Tool (Free)

Next Sunday: "God's Presence in our Grief"