

Mt. Lebanon Church

Adult Sunday School Lesson

8.18.2024

Please look up and read all verses in their entirety. I have only written partial verses.

Make your own notes, write down other scriptures that you run across while studying, write down questions that you may have or comments as well. Below please find my sharable thoughts, so please allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you that he would have you to see through the study of God's word to share.

A Servant Girl Points Naaman to God

2 Kings 5: 1 – 5, 9 – 15

No matter the disposition of the spiritual maturity in our life in Christ, we must always submit to God's will. Our failure to submit is due to the lack of our willing attentiveness, as God reveals his character and his will unto us through his word. Submitting ourselves unto the will of God can be very difficult, for to do so we must give up our own worldly desires, our own hopes and wants, and we must choose to follow after Christ wherever he may lead. By submitting unto God, we are letting him know that he is the Lord of our life, therefore, we must focus upon him in every situation and circumstance that we face. Submitting unto God is not a submission of convenience, it is something that we must do every moment of every day, as we heed to the leadership and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Micah 6: 8,....he hath shewed thee, O man, what is good, and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with God...

Through his word, God shows all of mankind what is good and acceptable in his sight, and that is to fear the Lord, walk faithful in obedience to his word, submit humbly unto him, and love him with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. Now, only believers are accredited with the righteousness of Christ, which alone can act justly, live faithfully, walk humbly, and love God unconditionally, for only the believer lives his life from the source of his new life in Christ, through the power of the Holy Spirit. But we must choose to do so, by submitting wholly and completely unto God.

Man focuses upon religious rituals, rites, and ceremonies, while God focuses upon faithful obedience to the truth of his word. Instead of taking pride in what we feel we bring to God, we must humbly recognize that no amount of personal sacrifice can replace a heart of that is committed to glorifying God.

Isaiah 66: 1 – 2,.... thus saith the Lord, the heaven is my throne, the earth is my footstool, where is the house that you build unto me?....and where is the place of my rest?....for all these things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the Lord....but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word....

Do we have a genuine relationship with God, or do we attempt to confine or limit the will of God in our life. We must strive to live within the realm of Gods desires for us, surrendering ourselves unto his will, and allowing his spirit to transform us within. To do so means recognizing the authority of his word, while willingly seeking to embrace and experience the principles of his commandments and promises, and allowing each characteristic of God to have a sincere, heartfelt impact on our relationship with him.

1 Peter 5: 6,.... humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time....

Believers are to develop a teachable spirit, and the development of such a spirit of humility takes much time in prayer and meditation in the word of God. While worldly pride is destructive, and disrupts our communion with God, a spirit of humility is pleasing unto him, for it represents the Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, a humble spirit will grow in grace, and in knowledge, and in the understanding of God and his word, and by this will God raise us up in the newness of our life in his Son Christ.

2 kings 5: 1 – 5,....Naaman, captain of the host of the king of Syria....was a great man....by him the Lord has given deliverance unto Syria....he was....a mighty man....but he was a leper....the Syrians had gone out....and brought captive out of the land of Israel a....maid....and she waited on Naaman's wife....she said....the prophet....in Samaria....would recover him of his Leprosy....the king of Samaria said go....I will send a letter....and he departed....

As believers, we should always be concerned for the well-being of others, no matter the situation or circumstance that we may find ourselves in. We are to be loving, merciful, self-sacrificing, and as we see the needs of those around us, our hearts should be full of the love and compassion of God towards all mankind. This is pleasing unto God, to see his children display these characteristics in their lives.

Psalms 145: 9,....the Lord is good to all, and his tender mercies are over all his works....

The word of God encourages us as believers, that with all new experiences of God's goodness in our life, our faith is marked by our ever-growing spiritual maturity, which represents the ongoing work of God in our lives. We are reminded of the joy of the Lord, that is continually being fulfilled within us through our experiences of God's faithfulness and grace in our lives.

2 Kings 5: 9 – 15,....Elisha, sent a message....saying, go and wash in the Jordan seven times....but Naaman was wroth, and went away....and his servants came near, and spake unto him....if the prophet had bid thee to do some great thing wouldst thou have done it....then he went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan....and he was clean....he returned to the man of God....and said, behold I now know that here is no God in all the earth, but in Israel....

Proverbs 16: 18,....pride goeth before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall....

Arrogance in our life will almost certainly bring disaster in both physical and spiritual ways. For those who are too proud to humble themselves, they will be humbled anyway by the wrath and condemnation of God's judgement. Yes, there are blessings and benefits to God's wisdom, but there is also the destructive nature of a prideful heart. The pridefulness of worldly living is the motivating factor behind most of our failures in life.

Proverbs 16: 19,....better it is to be of a humble spirit with the lowly, then to divide the spoil with the proud.

Pride is a pedestal that we put ourselves on, for it is a choice that we make in our life. Such arrogance is hazardous to our spiritual life in Christ, because it hinders our relationship with God by keeping us from fearing the Lord.

Proverbs 3: 7,....be not wise in thine own eyes, fear the Lord, and depart from evil....

Proverbs 22: 4,....by humility and the fear of the Lord are riches, and honor, and life....

To fear the Lord means to respect, to reverence, and to submit unto him in every area of our life. The fear of the Lord is our acknowledgement of our need for God. The proud person pursues his own self-righteous ways, but the humble person is one that is obedient to God and to his word. Humility and Godly fear will establish us securely in God so that we will not stumble and fall into the prideful arrogance of our own worldly righteousness, and it is then that like Naaman we will be able to proclaim that now we know that there is no God in all the earth, but the God of Israel.

Let us Pray.

If anyone has any questions, comments or would just like to discuss any of the scriptures, feel free to call, text or email me. Keep praying for each other and all the God lays upon your heart. Hope to see everyone soon. God Bless.

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