

sync

2-12-12

---During our first week of our VISION series we talked about how important it is to look BACK in order to ascertain a clear view of our future. As we look back we should always find an initial moment and many subsequent moments of SUBMISSION. A point in time where we laid down our lives, our excuses, our desires, our plans, our gifts and even our faults and failure to His vision for our lives.

---During this past week of our VISION series we talked about how important it is to look UP in order to ascertain a clear view of our future. As we look up to Him in utter, complete surrender He is able to pick us up. As we make Him our focus, the focus of His vision for our life becomes much clearer.

---Today we focus on a third facet of clarifying God's vision for our lives...Looking WITHIN...

--- I just came off a week in Arkansas. In addition to visiting churches I had planned some extra time to "exhale" after the arduous build-out journey. A week ago last Thursday--- planned for Wed and Thursday night to be away to "sync"...

---HOW MANY OF YOU THINK YOU DON'T HAVE TIME TO "EXHALE"?

---IT'S NEVER A WASTE OF TIME TO STOP AND SHARPEN YOUR HOE...WORK SMARTER, NOT HARDER. CREATING MARGIN, TIME TO EXHALE IS NOT A PERK YOU ENJOY WHEN THINGS ARE GOING WELL...ITS AN ESSENTIAL, ANCIENT DISCIPLINE THAT IS ESSENTIAL TO ENSURING YOU HAVE A CHANCE TO HAVE A GOOD WEEK TO BEGIN WITH.

---AND ITS MORE THAN THAT...ITS NOT JUST ESSENTIAL TO SETTING A HEALTHY SUSTAINABLE PACE...ITS ALSO A **POTENT PREVENTATIVE** AND THE **KEY TO ENABLING THE SPIRIT'S GRACE IN YOUR LIFE!**

---LEST YOU THINK THIS IS SOME NEW AGE MYSTICISM, FAR EAST YOGA TRANSCENDENTALISM...let's turn our eyes to the a most compelling example...

I. ANCIENT EXHIBIT “A”---JESUS...

Even many who have “hung around church” for decades may be surprised to hear Jesus in the following texts...

John 5:19, 30

¹⁹ So Jesus explained, “I tell you the truth, *the Son can do nothing by himself*. He does only what he sees the Father doing. Whatever the Father does, the Son also does.”

³⁰ I can do nothing on my own. I judge as God tells me. Therefore, my judgment is just, *because I carry out the will of the one who sent me, not my own will*.

John 12:44-46, 49-50

⁴⁴ Jesus shouted to the crowds, “If you trust me, you are trusting not only me, but also God who sent me. ⁴⁵ *For when you see me, you are seeing the one who sent me.* ⁴⁶ I have come as a light to shine in this dark world, so that all who put their trust in me will no longer remain in the dark.

⁴⁹ I don’t speak on my own authority. The Father who sent me has commanded me what to say and how to say it. ⁵⁰ And I know his commands lead to eternal life; so *I say whatever the Father tells me to say.*”

John 14:24b

And remember, *my words are not my own*. What I am telling you is from the Father who sent me.

So...basically, Jesus is making it unmistakably clear that He has chosen to so completely submit and surrender His right to pursue His will that He is literally SYNC’d up in every way to the Father’s Will. Now, lest your theology be scewed and you presume Jesus was always excited about the Father’s will read what Jesus says next...

Mark 14:32-36

³² They went to the olive grove called Gethsemane, and Jesus said, “Sit here while I go and pray.” ³³ He took Peter, James, and John with him, and he became deeply troubled and distressed. ³⁴ He told them, “My soul is crushed with grief to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me.”

³⁵ He went on a little farther and fell to the ground. He prayed that, if it were possible, the awful hour awaiting him might pass him by. ³⁶ “Abba, Father,” he cried out, “everything is possible for you. Please take this cup of suffering away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine.”

You see, **EVEN TO THE BITTER END...JESUS SYNC’D HIS WILL TO GOD’S...** Syncing to the Spirit is about far more than simply training your senses to be constantly aware of His presence. Syncing to the Spirit is ultimately about following God’s will or vision for your life, even, even, even if that vision is one of extraordinary sacrifice.

He calls on us to do no less...

Matthew 16:24-25

²⁴ Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. ²⁶ What good will it be for you to gain the whole world, yet forfeit your soul?

Apparently Paul came to teach and follow this pattern as well...

Acts 17:27-28a

²⁷ “His purpose was for the nations to seek after God and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him—though he is not far from any one of us. ²⁸ For *in him we live and move and exist*.

Galatians 2:20

²⁰ My old self has been crucified with Christ. *It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.*

CONCLUSION...

In light of these truths...what should we do?

Colossians 2:6-7

⁶ And now, *just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him.* ⁷ Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.

---Apparently, we are to follow Him the same way we initially accepted Him as Savior, which was accomplished completely through His grace. If you have never accepted Christ Jesus as Lord, that is the FIRST STEP you must take. But notice, that is the FIRST step you take...every subsequent step is taken the SAME WAY...with an awareness of your need to rely completely, moment by moment, on Him for grace.

Galatians 5:25

²⁵ Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit’s leading in every part of our lives.

---The Word makes it clear...EVERY part of our lives, EVERY moment of our lives is to be spent following His Spirit’s leading, perfectly SYNC’d to His vision.