

Strengthening Your Marriage Week 8

Colossians 3:1-11

Icebreaker-name on back game

Prayer

Col 3:1-11 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you will also appear with him in glory.

Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. Here there is no Greek or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

Setting our hearts on things above(Col 3:1-2)

Q What is the first thing you think of when you hear that?

Heaven/salvation/witnessing

*Heaven

Eph 2:6-citizens of heaven

Hebrews 11:13 Strangers on earth

*witnessing/salvation

Matt 28:19-20 God made us disciples

Acts 1:8 Our responsibility to proclaim

Q Name a few things that might be considered "earthly things".

Is it "OK" to have/want these things?

Things I thought of were material items, health, success

Example 1: Jeremy's practice has been super successful. He wanted it to be successful YES but #1 goal was to use it to witness and use it for God. (His motives were right with God's will). Now he has been able to supply jobs for a dozen people who need work(they are Christians and fight this battle with him in the office).

Luke 16:15 -God knows our hearts/motives

Example 2:Health of kids- Luke's kidney. Yes it is normal for me to want him to be healthy like other kids but I am able to relate/sympathize in a sense with others and tell them how my faith gets me through the hard times. All things work according to HIS purpose.

Romans 8:28-All things work for the good of those who love Him

*In all of our circumstances we need to be pointing people to Jesus(WITNESSING)! Our hearts need to be on things above(what is the BIG PICTURE).

Died to our sins/crucified with Christ(Col 3:3-4)

Q What does mean when our life is "hidden with Christ"?

Gal 2:20 Crucified w/Christ-He lives through us!

Romans 6:2 We died to sin

Eph 5:5 No immoral/greedy person has any inheritance in kingdom

*OUR HEARTS SHOULD NOT DESIRE ANYTHING BUT FOR GOD TO HAVE THE GLORY

Fireproof movie

Q What were things that he focused on??

Q What was he striving for?

Again....selfishness

SINS(Col 3:5-9)

Everyone write biggest sin you struggle with (anonymous)

Verses on some sin topics:

Immorality:

1Thes 4:3-5 passion/evil desires

Ex: Pornography, affairs

Impurity=evil thoughts and desires

Phil 4:8 Whatever is true, noble...

Ex: even thinking wrong/ wish spouse did this or that

Greed:

Mt 6:19-21 do not store up treasures on earth

Mark 8:36 gain world lose soul

Phil 4:11 content in all circumstances

Ex: always trying to keep up with Jones'

Even technology(phones/ipods/HD TVs)

Anger:

James 1:19-20 be slow to anger...

Proverbs 15:1 slow anger/quick to listen...

Cursing:

James 3:10

Mt 12:36 every careless thing day of judgement

Eph 4:29 not let any unwholesome talk

Example: HS football sideline

Lying:

Proverbs 12:22 Lord detests lying lips

Luke 16:10 Who ever be trusted with little can be trusted lots

Example: shopping with friends and they say just don't tell Jer

We have died to sins penalty but not its power

Rev 19:11-16?

Zech 4:6 not by might or power but by Spirit

Mt 26:41 spirit willing but flesh is weak

SO.....

Application:

We ALL sin so we need to have a verse or two memorized to help us when it pops back up!

Psalm 119:11

Weekly challenge:

MEMORIZE COLOSSIANS 3:12

*Find previous class notes on the church website www.southsidebiblechurch.net.