

Strong In Faith

Troubling The Darkness - Week 2 (7-13-22)

Romans 10:6-17

I. Faith is of the Spirit

- A. John 6:63-65
- B. Only the Spirit quickens
- C. Everything that we know in this physical realm was created by a (The) Spirit that spoke words to create it.
- D. That was the only voice at the time, and is still the only voice that carries and produces life as it goes out.
- E. Romans 10:17 - "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."
 - 1. "Word" = Rhema (spoken) not Logos (written)
 - a) does that mean we can't get faith by reading the written Bible? - No!
 - b) Spoken to our spirit from the Holy Spirit - John 6:44
 - (1) Faith is of the spirit and comes when the Spirit of God speaks to our spirit.
 - (a) Sometimes He does this through the voice of a person, sometimes through the written scriptures, sometimes music, sometimes the things that we see in the world around us (the heavens declare the glory of God - Psalm 19:1)
 - (2) renew your mind! - Romans 12:1-2
 - 2. "Hearing" = Akoe - audience, report, rumor
 - a) It's hard to listen to just one voice when there are many talking at one time.
 - b) Only one can produce life and faith in you.
 - c) 2 Corin. 10:3-5 - learn how to turn down the other voices
 - (1) We have to learn to look past all of the cause and confusion and distractions and hone in on the voice of truth
 - (2) renew your mind! - Romans 12:1-2
 - 3. Mix the word with faith - Hebrews 4:1-2
 - a) We have to receive the word of God in faith for it to benefit us!
 - b) 1 Thess. 2:13 - receive it as the word of God and as truth
- F. Faith is a fruit of the Spirit - Galatians 5:22
 - 1. "Faith" = Pistis - exact same word as in Mark 5:34 - "Daughter, thy **faith** hath made thee whole..."
- G. Faith without works is dead - James 2:14-20
 - 1. We love to talk about faith but don't get too excited about using it!
 - a) When I had just finished college for music ministry, I could talk all day about music and worship, but knew very little about actually leading corporate worship.
 - 2. The need to exercise becomes more and more important as the natural demands on your body become less and less.
 - a) Someone who works in an office has a higher need to exercise than a construction worker or a farmer.

(1) The same is true of our faith!

II. Faith and the Wounded Spirit - Proverbs 18:14

- A. If faith is so important to how we live as Christians and whether or not we can please God, and comes out of our spirit, how important is it to keep your spirit healthy!
- B. The Spiritual immune system
 - 1. If our immune system is healthy, many times we don't even realize that our body was ever attacked. The immune system just did its natural thing and you were able to keep living life like you should.
- C. What is a wounded spirit? What does a wounded spirit look like and feel like?
- D. Example of how a wounded spirit affects your faith
 - 1. Mark 11:22-26 - Unforgiveness is deadly to our faith!
- E. "The Enemy always attacks the messenger, the message, and the method."
- F. Choose to intentionally approach each new challenge in faith!
 - 1. The moment you let a situation shake your faith, it is ground lost to the enemy. That same ground has to be fought hard for to be gained back.
- G. Ways to treat a wounded spirit
 - 1. Jude 1:20-21
 - a) Praying in the Spirit
 - b) Keep yourselves in the love of God
 - (1) remember, faith works by love! - Galatians 5:6
 - (2) Psalm 30:5 - "...In His favor is life..."
 - (a) We can't have confidence in faith if we are no longer sure if we are loved by God. Therefore we can no longer fully live.
 - i) If you're uncertain of God's love for you, you can't have faith and you can't please God.
 - 2. Psalm 107:20