

# What's Your Plan?

Troubling The Darkness - Week 3 (7-20-22)

Mark 4:13-20

## I. Wake up

- A. The Way Side - not even open to the Spiritual realm and unreceptive.
  - 1. "...break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the Lord, till He come and rain righteousness upon you." - Hosea 10:12
- B. Eph. 5:14-21
- C. We must be sensitive and receptive to the Word of God and the Holy Spirit. Being practiced at hearing His voice is absolutely crucial!
  - 1. We live by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. - Matt. 4:4
- D. The enemy wants to desensitize us to the spiritual realm because that's where our life comes from.
  - 1. If we call ourselves the children of God then we must be led by the Spirit of God.
    - a) Romans 8:14 - "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God."
    - b) John 6:63 - "It is the Spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing..."
- E. We must be practiced at hearing and recognizing the Spirit of God.
  - 1. The enemy will try and disguise itself as good, or as truth, or as being kind, but we must still be able to recognize it as the enemy!
    - a) Nehemiah 5:10-14

## II. Get Established

- A. Stony Ground - When we do not establish ourselves in the things that will hold us steady.
  - 1. Whats the point of having faith if it never gets challenged and you never have to use it?
  - 2. Just because you know about a measuring tape or hammer and even know how to use one that does not make you a carpenter!
- B. If we are going to help develop and produce stability then we must learn to operate in stable things!
  - 1. The Word of God and the Spirit of God
    - a) "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand forever." - Isaiah 40:8
    - b) "Forever, O Lord, Thy word is settled in heaven." - Psalm 119:89 (MATH)
  - 2. Actually walk in the Spirit! literally live our your faith
    - a) (You must actually have your own faith in order to live it out)
      - (1) How do YOU say that Jesus is?? And are you prepared to defend that belief?
    - b) Galatians 5:16 & 25 - "...Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh." - "If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit."
      - (1) If you get offended over every little thing, you're unstable and not established.
      - (2) If you can't control your desire to lust, you're unstable and not established.

3. Chronicles 20:20 - "...believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe His prophets, so shall ye prosper."
4. "But be ye doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."
  - a) You're deceiving yourself if you think you can just receive the truth of God's word and not have to change or take action.
  - b) The wise man with a firm foundation is the one who hears God's words **and then does them**.
  - c) This is how we grow deeper roots and become established!  
(1) **Walk** in the Spirit and **Do** the word of God
- C. Do not just assume that your faith is "strong enough"!
  1. Heb. 3:12-13
    - a) "Take Heed, brethren..." he is talking to believers in Christ. People who are already convinced of Christ and His death burial and resurrection.  
(1) Heb. 10:38-39
    - b) Depart = to desist, desert - draw away, withdraw self
    - c) Exhort = Parakaleho (look familiar?) - to call near  
(1) John 14:16 - Comforter = Parakletos - advocate, comforter  
(2) Heb. 10:23-25

### III. Eliminate Distractions

- A. Among thorns - when we are open to the spiritual realm, but don't take it seriously or make it a priority.
- B. You can't become unfruitful if you wasn't already bearing fruit at some point.
- C. You only have so much of yourself to give! Invest it wisely!
  1. "no man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to one, and despise the other..." - Matt. 6:24
    - a) If you can't make God first place you will hate or despise Him...
- D. Hebrews 13:9 - "Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace..."

Eph. 3:14-21