



"And this is the commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also." 1 John 4: 21

Sunday – May 25, 2008

Heart to Heart...

We have arrived at another Sunday. Today, scattered all over the world and in different time zones, millions will be assembling to remember the death and resurrection of our Lord, celebrated in what is called the Lord's Supper. We are assembled today, here in the presence of the Lord, for one of two reasons: (1) To have a non-productive routine or (2) To make a huge difference in our lives.

Some have come to the assembly this day, approaching their worship and remembrance of Him with no real expectations! Just a slouching, bored ritualism. They offer nothing and they gain nothing. It is nothing but "going to church" following some ritual for them! Listen to a few songs, a couple of prayers, pop the Supper in the mouth with little thought about the meaning (just ritual), a lesson that's too long and finally, the end so we can go eat! Lifeless, shallow, meaningless and empty. Some sleep, some slouch down propping their knees on the book rack or laying their head on the back of the bench looking like they are at a movie to be entertained or bored stiff. There is so little motivation, or desire. No reaching out, no embracing but taking potshots at a missed note, a missed word, a rolling of the eyes of the heart at God's lesson and "look who they have serving today" attitude. No thankfulness, no praise of the heart and lips but just an empty, non-productive routine while God must watch in disgust. They leave as empty as they came but they were there!

Some have come to the assembly this day, approaching their worship and remembrance of Him to make a huge difference in their life! They want to express to God their eternal gratitude, awake and alert as they are aware of the very presence of God. They realize He is not ashamed to be called their God and they want Him to know it! They express their heart with the fruit of the lips, reaching out in prayer and the reading of His word. The Supper is not about a little cracker and juice but a joyful and thankful heart for their standing and acceptance before God. The lesson is received with such gratitude to effect change in the heart so their lives can be more like Christ. The service motivates us, sharpens us and gets our focus on what really matters. In the midst of our lives, with difficulties abounding or a worshiper feeling the sorrow of the loss of a loved one, the assembly of worship to God makes a huge difference! They have come wanting to offer their best while receiving a blessing from God. They leave filled, joyous and thankful. "What a great day of the Lord!" is their attitude.

Why did you come today? You might take a serious minute and examine why you do what you do and what did you offer.....it might scare you but I pray it will thrill you! It should, for we belong to God! Think about it!!!

Brent