



"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 – June 22, 2008

Heart to Heart...

One of the greatest lessons taught is Jesus' encounter with Mary and Martha (Luke 10). Mary was seated at the feet of Jesus, listening to His word. Martha found herself distracted with other things, particularly with preparing for eating the meal. The words came from the heart of Jesus, "*Martha, Martha, you are worried and bothered about so many things; but only one thing is necessary, for Mary has chosen the good part, which shall not be taken away from her.*" (Luke 10:41-42)

I was holding a gospel meeting and after the Sunday morning service, the congregation was planning a meal together. All during the assembly of worship, a few ladies stayed in the kitchen, preparing, banging pans and making all arrangements. It struck me, "they are giving up the good part by choice for something that will be soon forgotten anyway and taken away." Worship was less important than preparing a meal.

The choices we sometimes make can really distract us from the "*good part, which can never be taken away from us.*" We are busy choosing things and activities rather than "*choosing the good part*". Our lives become filled with running from this event to that. Weekends are spent for fun activities, many times ignoring the "*good part*". What is left unattended are the real, true matters, our spiritual well being. Just look how little influence is placed on "*sitting at the feet of Jesus listening to His word*" while our energies and efforts are expended toward things that will be taken away.

All of this has a great impact, not only on us, but our children's spiritual well being. As our children grow up, they get into high school and their interests in the "*good things*" are lost. Dads take their kids to ballgames, hiking, hunting, fishing and the assembly to worship our Savior and Creator is important as long as it does not interfere with our pursuits! The children grow up with little desire for Bible study and little desire for God's word. They graduate, leave for college and their desires wane even more, falling completely away from the Lord. Their souls, the souls we at one time guided, are in eternal jeopardy. They marry and where will they lead their families? Where did it all start? Lives become so worrisome and bothered about everything.

When was the last time you cultivated spiritual things in your home, in your personal life? How many of us are teaching/training our children that the Lord, "*sitting at His feet listening to His word*", His church and the soul is the most important things in life? Being active in other things is not wrong unless you start allowing distractions to become the most important thing. When you give up or temporarily exchange the "*good part that will never be taken away*" for something that will be taken away, just a passing pleasure, your spiritual life will start dying. That means our lives, our children's lives are being lead either toward or away from the Lord by choices made. Be honest and think about it!!!

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