



... Heart to Heart ...

We've heard the phrase, "*Talk is cheap!*" It's easy to talk, but it is completely different to walk. John says, "If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth." (I John 1:6) He states, "*If we say...*" It's not what you say that matters. In fact, in I John 1, he uses the phrase, "*if we say*" in verses 6, 8, and 10. In chapter 2, John uses the phrase, "*the one who says*" in verses 4, 6, and 10. John compares talk to walk! Talking doesn't put one in relationship to the Lord. One can say they are a "Christian" but that doesn't make it true. It's where you walk!

John says, "The one who says he abides in Him ought to walk in the same manner as He walked." (I John 2:6) To walk in the light is to walk, in your life, as Jesus walked. How did He walk? In the truth, by practicing the truth. He walked in love. He followed the righteousness of God by practicing that righteousness in His own life!

James writes the same thing. "But prove yourselves to be doers of the word and not merely hearers who delude themselves." (Jam. 1:22) There is a proving ground. That proving ground is the one who responds and is a "*doer,*" not an empty talker who just hears and deludes themselves. To be a doer, one must walk in the truth of God's word, respond to His teachings and practice what He is! The test of hearing is doing. That means we have a responsibility toward the Lord. If one is not a doer, they simply delude themselves. That means they have false conclusions based on false reasoning! Why do you think some cannot forgive when they have been offended?

"For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of a person he was." (Jam. 1:23-24) When they don't respond to God's teachings, it's like looking into a mirror and once they walk away, what they saw vanishes from their mind! How many lessons have been taught or preached, and then people walk away, instantly forgetting what God said, and practice the opposite. They are the ones who delude themselves.

We need to practice the truth, not simply hear the truth. We need to walk in the same footsteps of Jesus! We need to be doers as that brings blessings from God (Jam. 1:25). Where would you say you are? Think about it!!!

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