



... Heart to Heart ...

We, as the people of God, live among a lost world that doesn't know God. Our lives are to reflect the holiness of God because of Christ's cleansing blood. Our lives should impact the lost around us because our attitudes and desires are different.

Paul stated, “To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak; I have become all things to all men, so that I may by all means save some.” (I Cor. 9:22) His goal in life was “to save some.” What a purpose driven life! Many times we are sidelined with jobs and climbing up the corporate ladder, with careers and education. We blend in with the world. We start seeing people as basically good people, with little difference in many cases between them and us. Where is the salt? Where is the Light? What is our real purpose as individuals in this world? To help those around us learn about the truth of Jesus! There's a purpose driven life!!

The world we live in is full of wickedness. What should we expect from people? Paul told the Roman brethren that when they were slaves of sin, they were free in regard to righteousness (Rom. 6:20). What should we expect from people free from righteousness? They are without Christ. We have a cure for the lost, all the lost, and it's not found in isolation! It's found in the saving message of Christ. Many times we want to withdraw from people rather than try to help them see. So we try to preach our way into the lives of people, thinking that if they are going to hang around us, they will have to step up and live by our standards! God forgive us! Jesus sent His apostles into the world, not being a part of the world, approving of their ways and ideas, but to help them see the Light and make a difference among the lost.

We have parents who are lost, children and co-workers. They need to see and hear about the Christ we love and serve. I don't mean abuse them and belittle them but see it not only in what we say, but how we act and approach things. It's not about unloading on them, putting them in their place. It's about consideration and caring for their souls. They do what they do because they are lost!!! We can't expect the lost to act like the saved. They have no ability to do that. They need the Light, the salt, the directing back to God in order for them to come to their senses and see their need.

Your life lived among this world is very important. What we project to those around speaks volumes. I was reading an article by E.S. Jones. He said he came across a church of Christ in a certain area, which had a ten feet high fence around it with a sign on it that said, “Trespassers will be prosecuted!” What a shame. It doesn't matter why the sign was up, but what matters is the message projected to the community! What message are we sending? Think about it!!!

Brent