Sunday School Lesson July 11, 2021, Grace Baptist Church Kearneysville, West Virginia

## "A Separated Christian"

II Cor. 6:14 – II Cor7:1

Open:

- □ Paul admonishes the Christians at Corinth, through God's Word, to be careful about with whom they get in the yoke. <u>vs. 14</u>
  - Yoke = A device used for joining things together; an object used to picture servitude.
    - *ILL:* Team of Horses; Dog Sled. Even within the same kind of animal they pair them together in teams that get along because they see life the same way.
- ☐ God wants Christians to understand that no matter how hard you try somethings just do not mix or work together well. **vs. 15-16** 
  - *ILL:* Just like Water and Oil, fire and gasoline do not mix; a child of God will never fit in with the world no matter how hard they try. The outcome will not be what is expected or wanted.
- ☐ God wants Christians to understand the benefits of being close to God are far greater than temporarily pleasing the flesh. **vs. 17-18** 
  - *ILL*: Would you dig through a dumpster outside McDonalds to find one good hamburger? NO, then why would a child of God leave God's table to try and find one thing that the world says would satisfy them?
- ☐ God encourages Christians to cleanse themselves from the sins of the flesh. He tells them to allow the promises of God to motivate the child of God to live a separate life. **II Cor. 7:1** 
  - Everything the world tries to give; God already has available. The problem is the world tries to get everything instantly, when often time getting it God's way means it takes time.

Joy Happiness ContentmentPeace Satisfaction Fulfilment

## I. What does it mean to be a separated Christian?

- A. It means we understand that being close to the world will separate us from being close with the things we want most in life. *ILL:* Adam and Eve Gen. 3. The Best way to get what you want is to obey God and allow Him to give you what He knows is best for your life.
  - 1. From the people we love. God and one another.
  - 2. From the places we love. The perfect Garden God created.
  - 3. From the pleasures we seek All the wonderful things God made for man to enjoy.
- B. It means we need to be unified with God.
  - 1. One who has the same mind as God. **Phil. 2:2** "Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded..."
  - 2. One who has the same desires as God. **Ps. 37:4** "Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart."
  - 3. One who is looking to accomplish Gods will in their life (living a pure life). <u>I Thess. 4:3-4</u> "For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: [4] That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour;"

## II. How can I be a separated Christian?

- A. By not following my flesh. Those who follow after things of the flesh are blinded. **Eph. 4:17-18** "This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, [18] Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart:"
  - 1. We are to put off the works of the flesh <u>Eph. 4: 22, 31</u> "That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; [31] Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice:"
  - 2. We are to be renewed in our thinking. Eph. 4:23 "And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;"
  - 3. We are to put on the new man. **Eph. 4:24** "And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness."
- B. By not joining myself to things that will limit my ability to get close to God.
  - 1. The prodigal son chose to be close to the far country, which separated him from his father.

    Lk. 15:15 "And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine."
  - 2. I must separate from those things and people that will keep me from being able to be close to God.
    - a. Fleshly desires. II Tim. 2:22 "Flee also youthful lusts..."
    - b. Friends who will hinder me. <u>Gal. 5:7</u> "Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?"
  - 3. I cannot be a friend of God and a friend of the world. <u>James 4:4</u> "...know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God."
- C. By joining myself with things that will make me closer to God.
  - 1. Church Heb. 10:25 "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together..."
  - 2. Bible reading **Eph. 5:26** "That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,"
  - 3. Godly friends **Prov. 17:17** "A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity."
  - 4. By obeying Gods Word. **Ps. 119:9** "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word."

Cl	os	e:	P	S.	1
•	OB	•	_	υ.	_

The only two choices a person has is to choose to be separated from God or to be separated from the wo	rld.
Everyone separates, who will you choose to be close to?	

## **II Cor. 6:17**

"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,"