

Friday Meditation

R.C. Sproul wrote about the church....

“The Christian church is one of the few organizations in the world that requires a public acknowledgment of sin as a condition for membership. In one sense the church has fewer hypocrites than any institution because by definition the church is a haven for sinners. If the church claimed to be an organization of perfect people, then her claim would be hypocritical. But no such claim is made by the church. There is no slander in the charge that the church is full of sinners. Such a statement would only compliment the church for fulfilling her divinely appointed task.”

Take a moment today and thank God for:

- The forgiveness of your sins (*take a moment to tell God where you have fallen short this week and ask for forgiveness*)
- the gift of the church, as imperfect as it is...
- to help you become more intentional in serving God over the next two weeks.

May God be with you today my friend and rest on his unchanging love and grace for you. See you Sunday!

[Sermon Note Answers: others, reward, hypocrite, hold, conceal, church, Christianity, authenticity, bible, broken, sinners, hospital, humility, admit, first, authentic]

Sermon Notes

February 19, 2017 -- Matthew 6:1-8, 16-18

Christians Are Just Hypocrites!

Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of _____ to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no _____ from your Father in heaven. (MT 6:1)

A _____ is defined as 1) an actor, stage player; 2) a dissembler, pretender.

A dissembler is a person who professes beliefs and opinions that they do not _____ in order to _____ their real feelings or motives.

It is hypocrisy which cause many outside the _____ to say, "I want no part of _____!"

- The most important character trait people look for in people they want to associate with is _____.

One of the most important lessons from the _____ is how God is constantly dealing with very _____ people.

- Many are simply _____ not hypocrites.

An analogy for the church is it is like a _____.

The battle against hypocrisy begins with _____.

This week:

1. Be willing to _____ your faults to God & others.
2. Truly seek God _____ each morning.
3. Be _____ with yourself and others.

Monday Meditation

Read: Matthew 5:43-48

Questions:

1. What does God ask us to do?
2. When you love others/enemies, what do you think happens in your soul?
3. When Jesus says to be perfect, he is referencing being perfect in loving others as God the Father loves.

Prayer: Help me Lord this day to love others as you have first loved me. Help me to forgive those who hurt or harm me and to love them just the same. In Jesus Name. Amen.

Tuesday Meditation

Read: Philippians 2:1-11

Questions:

1. What does Paul want us to consider in humility? (v.3)
2. Who should we pattern our attitude after?
3. What did Jesus do for us and how does that impact how we should pattern our life today?

Prayer: Lord God, help me be like Jesus today, humbly loving others and having compassion for them. In Jesus name. Amen

Wednesday Meditation

Read: Luke 18:9-14

Questions:

1. Which of these two characters best represent you in your life these days?
2. What do you learn in verse 14, and how will that impact you today?

Prayer: *Holy God, thank you for Jesus' teachings today. Help me to always humble myself before you and those I meet today. In Jesus name. Amen*

Thursday Meditation

Read: John 13:1-5

Questions:

1. Jesus took on the lowliest and dirtiest job of a servant, which was washing the dirt off of others feet when they came to a home.
What is the lowliest act which God wants you to take on today as a servant?

Prayer: *Lord, you have called me to not just love others, but to serve them that they might come to know you. Help me to graciously accept the low tasks today that I might be a blessing to you and to others. In Jesus Name. Amen.*