

BEING HONEST WITH GOD

June 26, 2013

John 8:32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

- Honesty requires looking at the whole _____

John 4:24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

- Truth - true (as not concealing), to lie hid,
 - NT:225 - the reality lying at the basis of an appearance. Honesty.

· **John 4:24** *God is a Spirit (a spiritual Being) and those who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth (reality) worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth (reality).* **Amplified Bible**

In John 4 Jesus moved the woman at the well from surface concerns to the deeper issues of her life.

- He confronts her with _____ questions. He went below the surface of her actions to deal with bigger life-related questions;
 - Why are you at the well in the "middle" of the day? - Because you are ashamed?
 - Why are you running from husband to husband?
 - What void are you trying to fill?
- She tried to sidetrack the conversation, trying to keep it shallow, by asking Jesus about the best place to worship;

John 4:20 *Our fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship.*

- Jesus instead calls her to _____ her life beneath the surface and to consider her immoral lifestyle, as an indicator that she has an insatiable thirst for love

When was the last time that you were totally honest with yourself before God?

God gives us a picture of how we can walk and _____ with God in the life of Christ

Heb 4:12-13 *12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. 13 Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.*

Heb 4:13 *And not a creature exists that is concealed from His sight, but all things are open and exposed, naked and defenseless to the eyes of Him with Whom we have to do.* **AMP**

- He _____ us and how we REALLY are!

Gen 2:25 *And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.*

- In the beginning Adam and Eve were naked and not ashamed. This simply means that they had the kind of relationship that nothing was _____ or covered

Gen 3:7 *And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.*

- Because of the Sin Nature of Man, something told Adam and Eve to put clothes on
 - ✓ They tried to cover their sin
 - ✓ When we have made a mess in our lives, we try to cover it up with our own efforts...

Gen 3:21 *Unto Adam also and to his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins, and clothed them.*

- When God came, he clothed them with more permanent clothing
 - ✓ He covered them so they would be _____ before Him again.

There is a place in God where you can feel safe and secure in knowing God knows everything

- ✓ Many times, when we _____ from that idea, we are illustrating that we are not walking with God as we should

God's intent is that we are broken and vulnerable

- ❖ This will keep us from relying on our efforts or strength to cover or figure out what we think we need, but allowing God's strength to work through our weakness and brokenness

Because of the fall, God also builds the curse of the "thorns and thistles" (Gen 3:18) into the fabric of life as we know it today

Gen 3:17-18

17 ...cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; 18 Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;

He breaks the curse down into two primary areas:

1. Our _____ (Gen 3:16)
2. Our _____ (Gen 3:17-19)

- Relationships will be marked by _____ and misunderstandings
- Work will be _____ and frustrating.

Why does God do this? Why must we suffer this way?

- He released this curse to drive us to our knees, to seek Him, to recognize our need of a savior (Gal 3:21-25)!

The problem is rather than be broken by the thorns and thistles of life, we either flee, fight or hide!

- We flee by burying our _____ in some form of addictive behavior.
- We fight by becoming anger, _____, or violent because life isn't going our way
- We _____ by building our lives in ways that cover up how damaged, cracked fractured, frail, limited and imperfect we are

_____ is broken, cracked or imperfect; it is the common thread of humanity, even for those who deny its reality in their life

- God's intent is that we are broken and vulnerable – Why?
- Not relying on our efforts or _____ to cover or make up what we think we need, but allowing God's strength to work through our weakness and brokenness