

Wednesday Family Night Bible Study

Victor / Victim Message Series

Pastor Dave Marquard

Study # 1 ~ 1/8/20

VICTOR / VICTIM

Examine yourselves

2 Corinthians 13:5 (NKJV)

5 Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you are disqualified.

1 Corinthians 11:28 (NKJV)

28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup.

Peter was wrong about himself

Matthew 26:31-35 (NKJV)

31 Then Jesus said to them, “All of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night, for it is written: ‘I will strike the Shepherd, And the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’

Matthew 26:31-35 (NKJV)

32 But after I have been raised, I will go before you to Galilee.”

33 Peter answered and said to Him, “Even if all are made to stumble because of You, I will never be made to stumble.”

34 Jesus said to him, “Assuredly, I say to you that this night, before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times.”

35 Peter said to Him, “Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You!” And so said all the disciples.

David was wrong about himself

2 Samuel 12:5-7 (NKJV)

5 So David's anger was greatly aroused against the man, and he said to Nathan, "As the Lord lives, the man who has done this shall surely die!

6 And he shall restore fourfold for the lamb, because he did this thing and because he had no pity."

7 Then Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the Lord God of Israel: 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul.

Psalm 51:6 (NKJV)

6 Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts,
And in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom.

A problem with our faith, stinking thinking

Ephesians 4:17-19 (NKJV)

17 This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind,

18 having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart;

19 who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.

Israel, our prime example

1 Corinthians 10:11 (NKJV)

11 Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.

Numbers 14:1-5 (NKJV)

1 So all the congregation lifted up their voices and cried, and the people wept that night.

2 And all the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron, and the whole congregation said to them, "If only we had died in the land of Egypt! Or if only we had died in this wilderness!

3 Why has the Lord brought us to this land to fall by the sword, that our wives and children should become victims? Would it not be better for us to return to Egypt?"

4 So they said to one another, "Let us select a leader and return to Egypt."

5 Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the assembly of the congregation of the children of Israel.

Hebrews 11:13-16 (NKJV)

13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

14 For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland.

15 And truly if they had called to mind that country from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return.

16 But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.

Some people might say we are just talking about positive thinking

3 John 2 (NKJV)

2 Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers.

Psalms 106:13-15 (NKJV)

13 They soon forgot His works; They did not wait for His counsel, 14 But lusted exceedingly in the wilderness,
And tested God in the desert.

15 And He gave them their request, But sent leanness into their soul.

Proverbs 11:25 (NKJV)

25 The generous soul will be made rich, And he who waters will also be watered himself.

What you think, will become your faith

Proverbs 23:6-7 (NKJV)

6 Do not eat the bread of a miser, Nor desire his delicacies;

7 For as he thinks in his heart, so is he. "Eat and drink!" he says to you, But his heart is not with you.

Romans 8:6 (NKJV)

6 For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

Ephesians 4:23 (NKJV)

23 and be renewed in the spirit of your mind,

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Study # 2 ~ 1/15/20

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Luke 6:6-11 (NKJV)

6 Now it happened on another Sabbath, also, that He entered the synagogue and taught. And a man was there whose right hand was withered. 7 So the scribes and Pharisees watched Him closely, whether He would heal on the Sabbath, that they might find an accusation against Him.

8 But He knew their thoughts, and said to the man who had the withered hand, "Arise and stand here." And he arose and stood. 9 Then Jesus said to them, "I will ask you one thing: Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do evil, to save life or to destroy?"

10 And when He had looked around at them all, He said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." And he did so, and his hand was restored as whole as the other. 11 But they were filled with rage, and discussed with one another what they might do to Jesus.

A corrupt mindset will always blind you to truth and true faith

Israel, our prime example

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Prosperity of the soul

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Romans 10:9-10 (NKJV)

9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

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Study # 3 ~ 2/5/20

A problem with our faith, stinking thinking.

- Stinking thinking will get you killed.
- For many of us, faith never truly has a chance to develop; it is stunted by our thinking. Ephesians 4:17-19
- By the time Israel had gotten to the desert on their way to the Promised Land, God had already performed many miracles before them, *yet they still had a Victim mentality.*
- Why were they not dwelling (or meditating) on the amazing supernatural things that God had done for them.
- *As people of God, if we don't get our eyes and thoughts off of what and who we were, we will stay in slavery, a prisoner to our former self throughout our lives.*
- *How can you be a victor, with a victim mentality?? It is impossible.*
- We must make a conscious effort to change the subconscious!
- We need to develop a God consciousness!! We must change our mindsets. Colossians 3:1-3, 2 Corinthians 10:3-6.

Some people might say we are just talking about positive thinking.

- My question to you is this; can you have real faith with a negative mindset?
- Most definitely not!
- Can you walk in faith and be filled with faith, when you are sad? Depressed? Discouraged? Fearful? Worried?
- *When your mental condition is not right, your faith is not right.*
- Faith's genesis is in the mind. If you are not embracing the Words of Promise from a God mentally, they will not find their way into your heart where faith grows!
- If you are not meditating the Word, it will never turn into faith.

Prosperity of the soul.

- One of the most important verses in the bible is 3 John 1:2.

- If your soul is not prospering, your spirit man will not prosper!
- Consider Israel once again. Psalm 106:13-15.
- Proverbs speaks of the opposite, fatness or richness of the soul. Proverbs 11:25.
- What you think, will become your faith. *Another way to say that is what you think in your head will become what you think in your heart.* Proverbs 23:6-7, Romans 8:6.
- Your mind (soul) is the control mechanism of your entire life!
- *If you change the way you think, you will change your entire life!*
- Your mind has been programmed up to this point in your life a certain way.
- If that way is not right, your mind must first be reprogrammed in order for change to occur, in order for faith to work right.
- What you think is who you are and who you are is what you think. Ephesians 4:23.
- For the most part, the “spirit of our mind” is formed in the first 15-20 years of life.
- We may add experience and knowledge to what we have, but usually, if a person does not make a conscious effort to change the spirit of their mind, their person remains the same.
- When Israel carried it’s victim mentality, it’s slave mentality into it’s new life of freedom, it didn’t mix well and it caused rebellion against God. Numbers. 14:39-45.

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Study # 4 ~ 2/12/20

VICTOR / VICTIM

What you think, will become your faith. Another way to say that is what you think in your head will become what you think in your heart, Prov. 23:6-7, Ro. 8:6.

- Your mind is the control mechanism of your entire life!
- **If you change the way you think, you will change your life!**
- This is why taming the tongue is vital!! What we say with our mouth, has to, in one form or another, be in our head. What is in our head, will eventually make its way into our heart. What is in our heart, WILL become our faith!!
- Remember that your human spirit is like soil (Mark 4), it will try to grow whatever kind of seed that is put into it.
- If you are not meditating the Word, it will never turn into faith, **3 Jn. 1:2.**

Examine yourselves, 2 Cor. 13:5, Lam. 3:39-41.

- First, this is NOT a bad thing, it is a good thing.
- This is the Lord allowing us to examine and correct ourselves without judgment.
- God is not looking to judge His people, He wants them to judge themselves and change the way we are and the way we do things, so that we may line ourselves up with Him.
- When David failed God, his plea to God was to seek out truth inwardly, **Ps. 51:5-6.**
- It is the inward "parts" that needs to change, reprogramming the old with God's Word.

There is a cyclical relationship between the Spirit (heart), soul and body, 1 Thes 5:23.

- Your mind (or your soul), with the help of your 5 physical senses is where information is gathered and processed.
- The spirit of man then takes the information that the mind has received and processed, and then develops faith. Thoughts are in the mind; faith is in the spirit.
- Faith can be good or faith can be bad (fear).

- Under pressure, the body will almost without fail respond to our fear/faith programming in our spirit. This is what I believe the bible means when it says: **Eph. 4:22-24.**
- This is why Jesus would make the following statements: **Mt. 12:33-37, Luke 6:43-45.**
- *That is why it is absolutely necessary to program and reprogram your mind which will reprogram your spirit, pushing out fear and replacing it with faith.*

Learning alone is not changing!!

- Adding to what we already know is not true change.
- *Adding clean baby powder to an old stinky diaper and then covering it with a new diaper will not take away the smell!!*
- *What does cause broad success in life, is a transformational thinking process that allows us to develop faith for living that grows into EVERY area of life, Mk. 4:30-32.*
- The knowledge of the Kingdom, the truths of the Kingdom, are seeds that we plant not all around us but more importantly within us.

Change your treasure in your heart (head), change your results, Mt. 15:10-20.

- How you respond to situations, to other people, to circumstances are all reflective of the treasure that you have in your heart.
- Your behavior is reflective or we can say is symptomatic of your treasure.
- **We live out our thinking**, in our marriage, with our children, in our workplace, in the market place. Whatever it is that we do, is our thinking manifest!!
- It is what is in us that controls what comes out of us. Our thoughts, beliefs and attitudes control all of our responses.
- **Understand this, your head and your heart have a cyclical relationship!! All things enter your heart through your head. Our 5 physical senses, perceive then feed our heart, (which becomes our faith.) However, then your head begins to receive from your heart. Whatever you feed and have fed into your heart is what begins to come back into your head, then out of your mouth, then becomes your actions!!**

What you think in your heart is your faith and will be followed by what you say, Mk. 11:22-24.

- Our solution, the Word of God.