



Lesson 45 - Be approachable

04/10/2011 MEETING: PRESENT - I AM, Bob and Cindy

CT – Be approachable. Be clean. Cleanliness on the inside and outside, both are for your protection. My laws and commandments were given to shield you and others from harm. This is a simple and basic part of your life as my child. Just as you have your eternal salvation and physical salvation, you also have spiritual protection – protecting you in spirit and in the physical; protecting your body and mind. Remember you are an educator; not formally of course but I will place individuals in your path that you will give (teach) them a morsel here and a morsel there over a course of time. These morsels will lead them to a closer walk over time. Everyone doesn't change or grow closer to me in an instant; some do but others grow over time. Plant seeds in your daily walk. Don't become discouraged when immediate results aren't seen. I'm working through you, through your words and actions that I have led you through. My spirit is guiding, planting, and growing. Remember my calendar is not always your calendar. I can see the whole picture. I heard a line from the song "Just a closer walk with thee, help me Jesus that's my plea". I heard this in my head. God's grace is bountiful remember this. It is sufficient for all needs. Amen.

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

*I am weak, but Thou art strong,
Jesus, keep me from all wrong,
I'll be satisfied as long
As I walk, let me walk close to Thee.*

Refrain

*Just a closer walk with Thee,
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
Daily walking close to Thee,
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.*

*Through this world of toil and snares,
If I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares?
None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee.*

Refrain

*When my feeble life is o'er,
Time for me will be no more,
Guide me gently, safely o'er
To Thy kingdom shore, to Thy shore.*

Refrain

Cleanliness

This week the Lord began His words by asking us to **Be approachable** followed by **Be clean**. He then linked cleanliness to protections. Cleanliness, you see, is the result of washing away dirt and germs. In other words washing away sin. He helped us to understand His thoughts behind this message with the statement, **My laws and commandments were given to shield you and others from harm**; consequently, you can see how these are related. Obedience (cleanliness) leads to protections.

Matthew 5: 21-22, 27-28

“You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not murder, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.’ But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, ‘Raca!’ shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, ‘You fool!’ shall be in danger of hellfire.”

“You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.”

From these verses you can tell that disobedience and sin have consequences. This is a part of what our Father in heaven is trying to protect us from (i.e. the consequences of sin). The Lord then said, **This is a simple and basic and part of your life as my child. Just as you have your eternal salvation and physical salvation, you also have spiritual protection – protecting you in spirit and in the physical; protecting your body and mind.** Thus what the Lord was explaining to us is that His laws and commandments help to protect us from the consequences of sin.

2 Timothy 3:16

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Plant Seeds

I think another important part of our walk that the Lord wants us to understand involves the realization that we are representatives for Him. He explained in the words we received, **I will place individuals in your path that you will give (teach) them a morsel here and a morsel there over a course of time.** In addition, He instructed us to, **Plant seeds in your daily walk.** This was another reason why He asked us to **Be approachable** and **Be clean**. Because the Lord has a purpose for each one of us. We are a representative for Him and as such we want to set a good example ourselves.

The Lord understands that we are all different. He knows we all won't grow at the same rate. So we shouldn't be discouraged if we don't see immediate results or changes as a result of the seeds He has planted through us. He said, **Don't become discouraged when immediate results aren't seen. I'm working through you; through your words and actions that I have led you through.**

Growth

And in regards to growth the Lord gave these words. **Every one doesn't change or grow closer to me in an instant; some do but others grow over time.** Our growth in the Lord occurs at different rates for different individuals. The bible tells us the following:

Ephesians 4:11-16

*And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but speaking the truth in love, **may grow up in all things into Him** who is the head---Christ—from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does it share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.*

Yes, we are all different but the Lord has a unique plan just for you. Therefore, we will not all grow at the same rate; however, we can be assured that the Lord is there to guide us, doing His part. We just have to do our part. Don't forget these words He gave us,

My spirit is guiding, planting and growing. Remember my calendar is not always your calendar. I can see the whole picture.

Grace

Finally, we must have faith and hope in the Holy Spirit's guiding. The Lord assures us that He will guide us. One of the definitions of grace is **unmerited divine assistance.**

Romans 5:1-2

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

And Paul spoke of the grace of the Lord when he said this in **1 Corinthians 15:10**

But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.

The Lord is offering His assurance that **God's grace is bountiful remember this. It is sufficient for all needs.** As we go forth, growing in Christ and planting seeds we must keep the Lord's advice in the forefront of our mind. We must **Be approachable. Be clean. Cleanliness on the inside and outside, both are for your protection.** My laws and commandments were given to shield you and others from harm. This is a simple and basic and part of your life as my child.

I'm working through you, through your words and actions that I have led you through. My spirit is guiding, planting, and growing. Remember My calendar is not always your calendar. I can see the whole picture.

May the Lord Bless and Keep You,
Cindy

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