

*Sixty Days of Purity: A Training Program For The Sin-Stuck*

**“The Warrior In My Heart”**

**February 17, 2008 \* John 15:1-17**

*“I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.” ~ John 15:5*

*Review of last week’s teaching. At the Cross we learn:*

- A. We are \_\_\_\_\_ & there is no \_\_\_\_\_ for sinning, there is only a \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. We are \_\_\_\_\_; Jesus has paid in \_\_\_\_\_ the price of my sinning.
- C. Jesus gives me a new \_\_\_\_\_ of my life and comes as the \_\_\_\_\_ inside my heart to fight for me.

**What Does It Mean That Jesus Is The Warrior Inside My Heart?**

- I. *It Means We Have Jesus’ \_\_\_\_\_.*
  - A. *What’s the proof that Jesus looks on us as his friends?*
    - 1. *Because He \_\_\_\_\_ for us.*
    - 2. *Because Jesus reveals the Father’s \_\_\_\_\_ to us.*
  - B. *How does knowing we are Jesus’ friend help us stay pure?*
- II. *It Means We Have Jesus’ \_\_\_\_\_.*
  - A. *How are friendship & fellowship different?*
  - B. *What picture does Jesus use to describe the fellowship we have with him?*
  - C. *To be doctrinally correct, what is Jesus referring to?*
  - D. *What is my part to play in this fellowship? (Jesus tells me eleven times to do this.)*

- E. *What are some practical ways for me to ‘remain in him’?*
- F. *What do we mean when we compare spiritual disciplines to: Cough syrup?*

*A cup of coffee or tea?*

*How do I view the disciplines?*

- III. *It Means We Have Jesus’ \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_.*
  - A. *What happens to a branch separated from the vine?*
  - B. *“Be filled with the Spirit” – what does this mean?*

**The Great Purity Principle**

*That which we allow to \_\_\_\_\_ our hearts the most and that which we allow to \_\_\_\_\_ our souls the most is what we will \_\_\_\_\_ our hearts, souls and bodies to in the end.*

- C. *According to Jesus, what must I do to be pure?*
- D. *What happens to a house that is ‘swept clean’ but is not filled?*
- E. *Which Bible heroes demonstrate these truths?*

**This Weeks’ Homework:**

- 1. Read John 15:1-17 each day this week. Each time you do this, there will be something new that God will show you, a new verse that will leap out at you, a new insight you will have. Write these things down as God reveals them to you.
- 2. Jesus mentions 4 ways we can connect to Him in this passage. What are some other ways? Do you see spiritual disciplines as cough syrup or a cup of coffee? This week examine the way you spend time with God and ask Him to show you ways to make this time more special. Write your insights and ideas down.
- 3. Specifically identify things that you “store up” inside of you throughout the week. What do you allow to fill your heart and soul the most, besides God? Do any of these things ever hinder your walk with God? If so, what should you do about it?
- 4. Review your memory verses.

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*“I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.” ~ John 15:5*

*Review of last week’s teaching. At the Cross we learn:*

- A. We are **guilty** & there is no **excuse** for sinning, there is only a **sacrifice**.
- B. We are **forgiven**; Jesus has paid in **paid in full** the price of my sinning.
- C. Jesus gives me a new **vision** of my life and comes as the **warrior** inside my heart to fight for me.

What Does It Mean That Jesus Is The Warrior Inside My Heart?

*I. It Means We Have Jesus’ **friendship**.*

- A. What’s the proof that Jesus looks on us as his friends?
  1. Because He **died** for us. (vs.13)
  2. Because Jesus reveals the Father’s **heart** to us. (vs.15)

*B. How does knowing we are Jesus’ friend help us stay pure?*  
**When changing my snowblower oil, I poured the oil into a dirty, plastic cup, not my valued Cardinal 2006 Championship mug. If you think that God sees you as something cheap, of low value, expendable – well, you’ll probably give yourself to things which are dirty, shameful, impure. But if you see yourself as a friend of God, someone whom God looks at and a smile crosses his face, well then that will have an impact on how you treat yourself, and the things you do. You’ll start to see sin as something that is beneath you.**

*II. It Means We Have Jesus’ **Fellowship**.*

- A. How are friendship & fellowship different?  
**Friendship has to do with how I feel about someone, my attitude about them. It’s a heart thing. Fellowship has to do with the time I spend with them. It’s an action thing. If**

**you’re having fellowship with someone, you’re with them. You’re together.**

*B. What picture does Jesus use to describe the fellowship we have with him?*

**It’s as though Jesus is a vine and we are branches connected to that vine. That’s how close we are to Jesus. That’s how real this fellowship is.**

*C. To be doctrinally correct, what is Jesus referring to?*  
**The coming of the Holy Spirit inside our hearts.**

*D. What is my part to play in this fellowship? (Jesus tells me eleven times to do this.)*

**To “remain” in him.**

*E. What are some practical ways for me to ‘remain in him’?*  
**In verses 7, 10 & 12, Jesus gives four ways for us to remain in Him: Bible study, prayer, having an obedient heart that is tender to him, and Christian fellowship.**

*F. What do we mean when we compare spiritual disciplines to: Cough syrup?*  
**That these are things I will do because they are good for me, not because they necessarily enjoyable.**

*A cup of coffee or tea?*

**That these are ways for me and Jesus to enjoy fellowship together. They give me time to sit down with Jesus, savor his presence, enjoying the company I’m in. These disciplines are life-giving habits of the heart which I look forward to, which I gladly fit into my schedule, because in them Jesus’ life-giving sap, his power and strength, is flowing into me, making me better, stronger, holier than I was before.**

*How do I view the disciplines?*

III. *It Means We Have Jesus' **feeding** & **filling**.*

A. *What happens to a branch separated from the vine?  
It withers and dies.*

B. *"Be filled with the Spirit" – what does this mean?*

Notice the grammar. This is the passive voice. I don't rush out and do this. I can't fill myself. I allow this to be done to me by connecting to Jesus, pouring a cup of coffee and spending time with him. And as we have fellowship, he feeds me and fills me.

Notice secondly, the grammar of this phrase implies that this is not a one and done thing, but is to be a continuous activity. You may leave a church service filled up with more of God than when you came in. But between then and the next morning, you may notice it's not the same. Well you need to be filled up again.

The Great Purity Principle

*That which we allow to **fill** our hearts the most and that which we allow to **feed** our souls the most is what we will **give** our hearts, souls and bodies to in the end.*

C. *According to Jesus, what must I do to be pure?*

**According to Luke 6:25, I must 'store up good things' in my heart if I want good to come out of me.**

D. *What happens to a house that is 'swept clean' but is not filled?*

**Luke 11:24-26 tells us that evil will return to a house (a soul) that is not filled.**

E. *Which Bible heroes demonstrate these truths?*

Israel was nothing on her own. She was the wimpiest of nations. But when she was connected to God, wow! Pharaohs trembled. Mountains quaked. Seas parted. But no sooner did Israel take her eyes off of God, no sooner did Israel start to think that she was all that – pow! – the Hebrews were running for the caves, the hills, the high ground. David was nothing on his own. The weaniest of

all his brothers. But connected to God, wow! – giants were slain, armies fled, kings bowed before him. But no sooner did David take his eyes off of God, start thinking that he was all that – pow! – David lost his purity, his sons, his throne. Peter was nothing on his own. He wasn't even a good fisherman. Every time you see Peter fishing in Scripture, he can't catch a thing. Minnows mocked him. But when Peter locked eyes with Jesus, the Lord filled his nets with fish, and later when he preached – with souls. Why Peter could even walk on water when his eyes were locked on Jesus. But the instant Peter took his eyes off the Lord, into the water he sank, a simple slavegirl made him deny his Lord.

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