**Adult Sunday School**

June 12, 2011

**The Diligent Search**

Psalm 77:6 I call to remembrance my song in the night: I commune with mine own heart: and my spirit made diligent search.

Ps 77:1—I cried unto God with my voice, even unto God with my voice; and he gave ear unto me.

**The Parable of the Prodigal Nation**

Ps 78:1— Give ear, O my people, to my law: incline your ears to the words of my mouth. 2 I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old:

3 Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us.

4 We will not hide them from their children, shewing to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done.

5 For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children:

6 That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and declare them to their children:

7 That they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments:

8 And might not be as their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation; a generation that set not their heart aright, and whose spirit was not stedfast with God.

Song 5:2 ¶ I sleep, but my heart waketh: it is the voice of my beloved that knocketh, saying, Open to me, my sister, my love, my dove, my undefiled: for my head is filled with dew, and my locks with the drops of the night.

In a state of trying to get comfortable, satisfied and trying to fall asleep, thinking that nothing more can be done at this time. The church has fallen asleep a long time ago.

1. The Bride’s Attitude
2. She says “I sleep”
3. This is an improper attitude

To sleep spiritually and feel comfortable you are in trouble.

Is this the harvest time? Is this just before the time to meet with the Bridegroom? Is this the closing days of time before the tribulation hour?

* 1. No preparation for His Coming,
     1. To meet with the Lord.
     2. Spend time with the Lord
     3. yielding fruit to perfection

Luke 8:14—*And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to perfection*

Hebrews 13:21*—Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.*

James 5:7*—Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.*

* 1. Made preparation to go to sleep.

Song 5:3 I have put off my coat; how shall I put it on? I have washed my feet; how shall I defile them?

* + 1. Put off Her coat

Romans 13:14—*But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.*

Galations 3:27—*For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.*

5:16—*This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.*

Romans 8:4—*That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.*

2Cor. 5:17; Gal. 5:6; 1Cor.7:19*;* Jn 14:21*-*23; 1John 2:3*,* 3:24

Gal. 6:15; Col. 3:10; Ephesians 4:23,24

* + 1. Washed her feet

1. This is a indifferent attitude

Song 5:3 I have put off my coat; how shall I put it on? I have washed my feet; how shall I defile them?

* 1. No guard or watching like you should--how shall I put it on?

Mat. 26:41 Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

* 1. No effort--how shall I defile them?

Php 2:12—*Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.*

1. This is a insufficient attitude-
   1. “I Sleep but my heart waketh”

Satisfied in the flesh about themselves, but not satisfied in the spirit

Sacrificing the best for that which seems to be good.

1. Half-hearted--- a divided heart

My Spirit wants God but my flesh likes to sleep

1. Compromising-wanting God on your terms
2. Apathy (without deep feeling) relaxed

A Lack of feeling She wants Him but not like she should, How much do you really want Him?

* She kept Him there for awhile
  + Knocking

“it is the voice of my beloved that knocketh, saying, Open to me, my sister, my love, my dove, my undefiled: for my head is filled with dew, and my locks with the drops of the night”

* + His voice calling and dealing

Gen. 3:8 And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.

Isaiah 6:8 Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.

Rev. 3:20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

* We need to wake up and follow after Him.
  + Seek Him to Serve Him
    - Decide to seek Him -Make up your mind
    - Determine to seek Him Start and don’t slow down
    - Diligently seek Him-Seek To be like Him

Deut. 4:29 But if from thence thou shalt seek the LORD thy God, thou shalt find him, if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul. (1Ch 28:9,19)

2Ch 15:2 And he went out to meet Asa, and said unto him, Hear ye me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin; The LORD is with you, while ye be with him; and if ye seek him, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you.

The Diligent search

Heb 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Hosea 6:3 Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the LORD: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth.

1. The Bridegroom’s Grace

It is not the continual knocking only but the Word of His Grace that will awaken the Bride

“it is the voice of my beloved that knocketh, saying, Open to me, my sister, my love, my dove, my undefiled”

1. Revealed in His knocking

“it is the voice of my beloved that knocketh”

* 1. To awaken her
  2. To arouse her (to get her up and going)
  3. To gain her fellowship

1. Revealed in His statements

“**saying**, Open to me, my sister, my love, my dove, my undefiled”

Acts 14:3 Long time therefore abode they speaking boldly in the Lord, which gave testimony unto the word of his grace, and granted signs and wonders to be done by their hands.

Acts 20:32 And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.

1. Relative (My sister) He saves, gives New birth
2. Lover (My Love) He first loved us
3. Devotee (My Dove) singleness of eye
4. Chaste Virgin (My undefiled)

Oh the Marvelous Grace of God that knocks and speaks to wake us up.

1. Revealed in His Patience
   1. Waiting and watching in all our tribulations

“my head is filled with dew”

He was there all the time, (all night) waiting patiently in love in all our trials

Dew filled His head—Head wet with the dew—Heaviest part, (morning dew)

Heb 4:15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

* 1. Interceding, praying and standing on our behalf

“my locks with the drops of the night”

My how He has labored, sweat dropping from His brow, earnestly desiring the best for us. (A Better Hope) and yet we sleep. We don’t see Him like we should. What great effort He has and is making for us. Yet we sleep.

Luke 22:44 And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and **his sweat was as it were great drops** of blood falling down to the ground.

Hebrews 12:2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him **endured the cross**, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

* + - * 1. He wants our fellowship

Php 2:1—If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies,

Php 3:10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

1Cor. 1:9 God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

2Cor. 8:4 Praying us with much intreaty that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints.

Eph 3:9 And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:

1John 1:3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.

6 If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:

7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

* + - * 1. He wants to reveal Himself in us

Rev. 3:20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, **I will come in to him**, and will sup with him, and he with me.

Gal. 1:16 To reveal his Son **in** me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood:

Php 2:12 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

13 For it is God which worketh **in** you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

* + - * 1. He wants to reveal Himself through us.

2Cor. 2:14 Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place.

Col 1:26 Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints:

27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:

28 Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus:

29 Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh **in** me mightily.

**“Song 5:3 I have put off my coat” There is more than putting off the old we must put on the new and then keep it on, stay awake, WORK**

**Put on His Coat**

Romans 13:14 But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.

Gal. 3:27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Eph 4:24 And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

**Put on His shoes**

Eph 6:15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

Like the Apostle Paul

* Romans 10:15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

Like the Psamist David

* Psalm 93:1 The LORD reigneth, he is clothed with majesty; the LORD is clothed with strength, wherewith he hath girded himself: the world also is stablished, that it cannot be moved.
* Psalm 104:1 Bless the LORD, O my soul. O LORD my God, thou art very great; thou art clothed with honour and majesty.

Like the Prophet Isaiah

* Isaiah 52:7 How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!
* Isaiah 40:9 O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God!

Like the Prophet Nahum

* Nahum 1:15 Behold upon the mountains the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace! O Judah, keep thy solemn feasts, perform thy vows: for the wicked shall no more pass through thee; he is utterly cut off.

Like the Apostle Peter

1Peter 2:9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

11 Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;

Read the Word of God with the mind to be like Him

Pray to be like Him

Be like Him in every way