

Week of July 12, 2009

Randall L. Adkisson, Ph.D.

Monday

Gal. 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, **goodness**,

It's the connection! If the connection is bad, the fruit will be bad. If the connection is good, the fruit will be abundant. Like love, joy, peace, patience, and kindness — this 'goodness' is a result of your constant submission to God and His word. This is a mark of your Spirit-filled walk. This is not merely doing a good thing here or there, but speaks of a growing righteousness in your life. This fruit is the reflection of God's righteousness through your life and a product of His living in you. Walk in submission to God's will and you will exhibit His goodness.

Tuesday

Lev. 19:2 "Speak to all the congregation of the sons of Israel and say to them, 'You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.

God, in His essence, is good, righteous, and holy. We, by our nature, are unholy, far from good. Two lifelong habits should then arise. One, inspection and repentance must be daily. You have not 'arrived' and will not stand without sin until you are made whole in heaven. Essential to the vitality of your relationship with God is a humble daily cry: "search me and try me Lord to see if there be any hurtful way in me." Two, you must continually connect to God's word and by it be built up in His righteousness until you bear the image of Jesus in your daily walk.

Wednesday

Matt. 5:14-16 "You are the light of the world...Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven."

God's desire is that you 'witness by contrast'. You are not to be socially odd so that people think you are weird or strange. Such would be repelling. Rather you are to be wonderfully different so that your life compels people to desire a relationship with your God. Relationships, actions, attitude, words are all to stand in contrast to the dark and gloom of the world's relations, attitudes, actions, and words. Is your life a compelling factor in the Kingdom's growth? When people view your life, see your relationships, or hear your words, are they compelled to know your God?

Thursday

2 Sam. 12:13 Then David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD."

David's tragic sin and its consequences make a very clear statement to you and to me. No one is ever too old, too rich, too well connected, too religious, or too educated to fall into the grossest of immorality and sin. *There is none righteous*. No one is exempt from the lure of sin. Oh, that you and I would mark down the truth, "If it happened to a godly man like David then it can well happen to me." Are you living with the proper boundaries in your mind, soul, and behavior against the deceitfulness of sin? Do not risk the damage, pain, and hurt of sin's consequences by ever thinking you are exempt from sin's enticement.

Friday

Rom. 3:10 "THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE.

Are you praying for revival in your life, your church, your nation? Pray then that God will bring the conviction of this truth upon your heart and then upon the hearts of others. This is not an excuse, as if to say, "there are none righteous so I am no worse than the rest." This is a statement of status before God. "There are none righteous and we are lost and without hope." This is a statement that should cause us to bow our knee and cry out in mournful sorrow. This is a statement that should bring humble submission and repentance. This is a statement that admits we deserve only judgment and drives us to seek mercy. This is a revival verse!