



"And this is the commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also." 1 John 4: 21

**Sunday – February 23, 2014**

## ***Heart to Heart...***

Paul told the Corinthian brethren: ***"Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love."*** (I Corinthians 16:13-14) We are called to grow up and act on the love of God. Some people never seem to get there and their lives are filled with nothing but drama. A misspoken word or someone not speaking to them and off they go into some emotional frenzy. Some have lived so long in their drama filled heart, they know nothing but drama! Too many get angry quickly and lash out. Others stew on something until it drives them to acting upon it. What is missing? In Christ Jesus we need to humbly submit our lives to Him so we can deal rightly with our will and emotions. It is the uncontrolled will and emotions that lead to wars in the world and feuds in the church!

Tempers seem to get the best of many. It is a problem for man because the Lord God speaks so much against it! God has anger, but His anger is a righteous anger and He doesn't lash out in a fit of the moment or in unrighteousness. ***"For the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God."*** (James 1:20) Do we believe that? What are we to do with these flashes of anger that come into our lives? Turn it into drama? It is too easy for some to be in a chronic state of hurt and anger. The wrongs or things not done in the way they think it should be stay on their mind. They are a walking case of nerve endings and it takes very little to set them off. There are some that are so drama filled that even a compliment is interpreted as an attack or a source of pain.

What are we to do? *Grow up!* Gain some spiritual maturity by being alert and work from the love of Christ. That can only come when we die to ourselves and allow Jesus to be Lord. God is trying to grow us to be conformed to the image of Jesus (Romans 8:29). The Lord calls us to let go of our petty feelings and grasp hold of His love. We need to have some alertness about the Lord and what He calls us to do, hold to the teaching of the faith at all cost, act mature and be strong in the Lord. And above all, do all things in Christ's love! The reason the hypersensitive have such difficulty with such is because they don't want to let go of themselves. They hold to their wants and feelings.

There is help if you really want to grow and mature. Let me give some direction. (1) Take sin seriously and move away from things you know that can trap you. The Lord knows our weakness and is trying to enter within our heart to help but we must be willing to surrender to Him. That means it takes a humble and repentant heart. Jesus said if one wishes to follow Him, denying self is the first thing (Matthew 16:24). He calls on our faith. (2) Start setting your mind on the things that are honorable, right, pure and things worthy of praise (Philippians 4:8-9). That means setting your mind on the things above, not on the earth (Colossians 3:2). (3) Stop making drama out of something that was spoken or done. Put some faith in Jesus that your life is hidden with God in Christ and you are safe, so there is no need to get all worked up (Colossians 3:3-4). (4) Start renewing your mind day by day with prayer and reading with faith God's word. Allow Him to affect your heart and desires.

With these principles you will find your life coming together as the Lord intended. You will find you are an encourager to those around. You will become an aid for the Lord and not a discourager because of something not going right today. It all takes a sincere faith. Think about it!!!

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