



Fairgrounds Road
C H U R C H O F C H R I S T

MESSENGER

“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 – March 26, 2017

Heart to Heart...

“Pursue peace with all men and the sanctification without which no one will see the Lord.” (Hebrews 12:14) Are you planning on eternity with God? I know that is a rather strange question for those in Christ, but are we really pursuing *“the sanctification”*? Sanctification is where one is separating themselves from evil and things that tempt or corrupt you. Christ sanctified us! (I Corinthians 1:2/Hebrews 10:10) We are holy to God and we need to live a life that pursues that holiness (I Peter 1:15-16), or we will not see the Lord. One cannot make a mockery of God and His sanctifying work on us by living lives that are less than holy. It all depends how much we cherish the blood of Christ and His work on our behalf. Do we believe it? Do we really love Him?

“But now having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you derive your benefit, resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life.” (Romans 6:22) The benefit of being forgiven is sanctification! That will lead us to eternity. What are we to do with our lives? *Pursue the sanctification!* We are to move away from the things that are less than holy and unrighteous. I once heard a person in Christ was going to a bar from time to time, drinking with friends (not getting drunk is what they said) and yet telling others they were “witnessing for Christ!” Can you imagine Jesus doing that? The apostles? Would you think God would lead us to such a place, participate in things like that and save us in the end? Are we that deceived? Is that a life that pursues the sanctification? We better read I Peter 4:1-5 again! God becomes a joke in the eyes of those outside Christ. It speaks to them that they can live their sin filled, ungodly lives, talk about Jesus and feel good about it all, not having to commit to Him or His ways and not even assemble with the saints to praise the death of Jesus. They end up believing they are going to heaven and never need to commit their lives to the Lord because they are shown by the example of the one in Christ! Can you imagine standing before God to explain your example to the lost? To effectively lead people to God, it is the forgiving, life changing sanctification that gets people’s attention. When believed and properly understood, Jesus and His sanctification of you changes the way you live and think! You cherish the relationship with the Lord so much, you want to stay away from temptations and sin and help the lost (sometimes brethren) out of their sins, not join in with them! *Pursue the sanctification or you will not see the Lord!* Some people use their tongues in lying, profane words and taking God’s holy name in vain, and using it degradingly. Christ

forgave and sanctified you. Use your tongue to praise and honor God, selecting words that are helpful and meaningful (Ephesians 4:29). That is called “*pursuing the sanctification.*”

The world is full of people who think they can live in sin, enjoy sinful activities, not even realizing how dead they are, heading to an eternal doom. They can talk about God and His Christ, while they march the road to death. Faith, a genuine faith in the Lord Jesus will change your life and habits! Faithlessness will water down the Lord and His death, while living a life of deceit. What are you pursuing? What do you really think of Jesus? Think about it!!!

Brent