



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 – February 4, 2018

Heart to Heart...

“Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; who substitute darkness for light and light for darkness; who substitute bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!” (Isaiah 5:20) There are so many who substitute evil in the place of good that cover up evil actions and thoughts. People use “*adult language*” to describe movies and television programs. Those terms ‘whitewash’ the truth. If people were honest they would say, “*The following program contains vulgar, profane and filthy speech.*” That would offend so many because it is truthful and accurate. Maybe we need to reclaim an old-fashion word – *sin!* Filthy, profane speech is sin!!

Our society has learned to play a great game with sin and words used associated with sin. People use phrases or words to minimize what is really being said and done rather than call it sin. When we play word games, sin doesn’t look sinful and do you think the devil would love us to believe that lie? If people can lessen sins description in the minds of others, it becomes much easier to cover up when one participates. When people are practicing immorality, it called “*an affair.*” That’s nothing big as it’s just a little fling! It’s not referred to as sin. People speak of “*little white lies*” over lying. That doesn’t sound as sinful. It completely blocks from the mind that in the lake of fire all liars will be there (Revelation 21:8). People are “*misdirected*” rather than living in sin. “*Nobody’s perfect*” is a phrase used to excuse sin practiced while keeping the door open to continue in sin. That becomes an easy shrug-off and it’s no big deal not realizing the practice of sin will cost one eternally. We reward “*rebellion*” especially with our children with “*they are basically good.*” Is that calling evil good? Alcoholism isn’t sinful but called a “*disease.*” If we identify it as a disease then we aren’t responsible. I’ve never known an alcoholic that didn’t start with their choosing of their first drink! A disease is something we have no control over. God calls it a deed of the flesh (Galatians 5:19-21) and those who walk after their flesh will not inherit eternal life. The list goes on and on. These things draw us away from the consciousness of sin and its drastic outcome while being deceived to think all is good between them and the Lord.

“Woe to those who drag iniquity with the cords of falsehood, and sin as if with carts of ropes.” (Isaiah 5:18) God is serious about sin in the lives of His people. The cords of falsehood are all around. To cleanse us with His Son’s blood is to show the depth and degree He goes to deal with sin in our lives. For us to close our eyes and think nothing of our actions and words

covering them up with twists and turns will leave one self-deceived. Jesus spoke these words: ***“Truly I say to you, unless you are converted and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.”*** (Matthew 18:3) “Become like children” should tell us that if something is not suitable for children it’s not suitable for us. We protect our children from the ill winds of sin and the things associated with sin. Why don’t we protect ourselves in the like manner? Everything depends on our hearts and we need to continue on a path of holiness just as our heavenly Father is holy (I Peter 1:15-16). Where are you walking? What do you desire? How serious do you take the blood of Christ? Think about it!!!

Brent