



"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 – November 21, 2021

Heart to Heart...

We have arrived at another Sunday by the grace of God. Today, scattered all over the world and in different time zones and nations, many will be assembling to remember the death and resurrection of our Lord, celebrated in what is called the Lord's Supper.

We are assembled today here in the presence of the Lord to fellowship Him in His Supper for one of two reasons: (1) To have a non-productive, spiritually damaging routine, just empty motions or (2) To make a huge difference in our lives. Some have come to the assembly this day, approaching their worship and remembrance of Him with no real expectations! Just a bored ritual. Nothing offered from the heart and nothing gained. It is nothing to them but "*going to church*" following some empty ritual! Listen to a few songs, a couple of prayers, pop the Supper in the mouth with little thought about the meaning and fellowship with Jesus and His body, a lesson that's too long and finally, the end so we can go eat! Lifeless, shallow, meaningless, and empty. Some sleep, some slouch or lay their head on the back of the bench looking like they are at a movie to be entertained or bored stiff. There is so little motivation, or desire. No reaching out, no embracing but taking potshots at a missed note, a missed word, a rolling of the eyes of the heart at God's lesson and "look who they have serving today" attitude. No thankfulness, no praise of the heart and lips but just an empty, non-productive routine while God must watch in disgust. Some might even get up and wander the building until it's all over. They leave as empty as they came but they were there! No awareness that this attitude, this lack of desire, is really killing them spiritually. But their conscience is not bothered at all!

Some have come to the assembly this day, approaching their worship and remembrance of Him to make a huge difference in their life! They want to express to God their eternal gratitude, awake and alert as they are aware of the very presence of God in our midst. They realize He is not ashamed to be called their God and they want Him to know it! They express their heart with

the fruit of the lips, reaching out in prayer and the reading of His word. The Supper is not about a little cracker and juice but a joyful and thankful heart for their standing and acceptance before God because of Christ. The lesson is received with such gratitude to effect change in the heart so their lives can be more like Christ. The service motivates us, sharpens us and gets our focus on what really matters. In the midst of our lives, with difficulties abounding or a worshiper feeling the sorrow of the loss of a loved one, the assembly of worship to God makes a huge difference! They have come wanting to offer their best while receiving a blessing from God. They leave filled, joyous and thankful. *"What a great day of the Lord!"* is their attitude.

Why did you come today? You might take a minute and sincerely examine why you do what you do and what did you offer? This teaches us where we stand with God and what He and Jesus Christ means to each of us. Think about it!!!

Brent