

“WWJD “What would Jesus Do”

Written January of 2010

Scripture Reading: 1 Thess. 5:11- Therefore **encourage** one another and **build each other up**, just as in fact you are doing. (NIV)

Introduction

The Message I was going to bring you to you today was a different one than what the Lord impressed upon my heart that needed to be spoken. The message today is for someone here that needs to hear these words, for someone that needs confirmation that God has heard your heart. On 1/8/2010 my Brother Sam emailed me the outline of this Message and tells me that the Holy Spirit impressed upon him that this would be the next Sermon I would preach. Well here I am to present what the Holy Spirit wanted for your today. Let us bow our heads in prayer and invite the Holy Spirit to open our minds, hearts and spirit to what the Lord has prepared for us today.

Sermon

WWJD...Question for you. How many of us know what this means?

What Would JESUS Do? We all have most likely seen it somewhere, we have read its meaning somewhere, we've heard it; but they are just words if we don't apply it to our lives.

Last week I had a friend who was confused and conflicted. She told me that she had been praying about her son and felt that she should support him on his actions, but when she spoke to others in her church they quoted a Bible Verse to her and the church told her that her son was wrong and was going against God; and that she needed to rebuke the demons within him or he would be lost. She had two different feelings within her: to support what she didn't understand in her sons' actions or to condemn them.

Here is the Scripture Reading that was read today in the King James Version.

“Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.” (KJV)

There are some key words here in both translations of this same Text, did you catch them. Encourage, Build Up, Comfort and Edify one another.

My friend asked me: *“How do I know who is right? Do I follow what the church is telling me or do I follow what I feel in my heart?”* She was left wondering which was the correct path to follow.

With the help of the Holy Spirit I answered her that day and today the Holy Spirit just lit me up on this subject again; it seems that many of us have these same questions. It was put very plainly to me and it may offend some of you, but just know that the Spirit of God has chosen these words and guides me to write them and express what God needs us to hear. Remember God is our Father and sometimes He may say things we may not like, but it is for our benefit.

Here was my plain answer to her, which also made me reflect on myself as well. In the Bible the Spirit shows us that we have to look at the context in which some of these texts were given to truly gather the meaning of what was written. I explained to her that instead of looking at what was said by her son, I told her to analyze where it was coming from. We all know there are only two sides to every story, and there is only good and evil.

So, in learning what is driving the thought, is what ultimately shows us what to heed and what to ignore. Sometimes as Christians we are so quick to judge others within the Body of Christ, or others in general. We quote Scripture with good intentions but we do not realize that what we are doing it within the spirit of judgment and condemning others. There is a quote that came to mind when this came to me:

"Some of the Worlds' biggest mistakes, began with good intentions"

Mathew 7:1, 2 (NIV) - Do not judge, or you too will be judged. ²For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

It is not up to us to determine right and wrong in the life of another. The only one who can do that is the one who is blameless; he is the only one who has authority to judge. He is GOD. God judges right and wrong, the Holy Spirit gives us the clarity to make the change if we are wrong. The history of Humanity is to judge and condemn that which they do not understand.

The people judged and laughed at Noah because they did not see his vision, Saul judged the appearance and strength of David because he did not see his promise, the early Christians and Disciples feared Paul because they did not realize his conversion, and the Jews judged and crucified Jesus because they did not believe.

Matthew 7:21-23 (NIV) - Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the Kingdom of Heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in Heaven. ²²Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' ²³Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evil doers!'

God & Jesus called us to love one another; God called us to build a relationship with his son Jesus and accept the gift of the Holy Spirit if we do not do these things then our service is in vain.

Romans 8:8 - So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

We quote scripture thinking we are helping but if we do not do it out of the spirit then we do not please God and we are helping no one.

Let's look up **1 Corinthians 2:11-16)**¹¹**For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man's spirit within him? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.**

¹²We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us. ¹³This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words. ¹⁴The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵The spiritual man makes judgments about all things, but he himself is not subject to any man's judgment: ¹⁶"For who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct him?"^[d] But we have the mind of Christ.

Verse 14: "The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned."

The flesh does not understand the Spirit, because it cannot see what the Spirit sees. I think that we miss-understood the message God gave us, when he gave us dominion over this earth, that we should be rulers, the head and not the tail. What he did not give us was the authority to judge one another. We need to think about what we say, because you may think you are doing something good but you may be committing a sin with your judgment.

Romans 14:14 (NIV) *Therefore let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in your brother's way.*

Romans 14:15-18 (NIV) *if your brother is distressed because of what you eat; you are no longer acting in love. Do not by your eating destroy your brother for whom Christ died. ¹⁶Do not allow what you consider good to be spoken of as evil. ¹⁷For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit, ¹⁸because anyone who serves Christ in this way is pleasing to God and approved by men.*

Romans 14:22,23 (NIV) *So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the man who does not condemn himself by what he approves. ²³But the man who has doubts is condemned if he eats, because his eating is not from faith; and everything that does not come from faith is sin.*

Ask yourself are these verses telling us that we should not say anything ever? No, they are just telling us that to pass judgment on others, to condemn someone, to tell someone you are wrong for doing this or not doing this and to speak to others in this manner is a sin.

Remember **Proverbs 18:21** tells us the power of life and death is in the tongue, so guard your words carefully so you don't break someone down. We were not sent here as judges; we shouldn't have this holier than thou attitude and crucify others with Scripture. We are to plant a seed.

Ephesians 4:29 (KJV) *Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace to the hearers.*

So back to the title today, as Christians we need to apply the concept of WWJD, What WOULD Jesus Do? Jesus was sinless, blameless, he had the right and authority to judge all of us; but what did he do, did he judge? Did he condemn? NO, he accepted everyone with love and compassion. Think about it, if you have children and they do something wrong or are doing something wrong, is it better to accuse and condemn the action in a loud tone, or for them to calmly understand the consequences of their actions.

You can yell and judge to your blue in the face but it is the Holy Spirit that makes the change in someone. Sometimes we feel we need to hit someone over the head with a Bible to prove a point, and that you have all this Scripture to back up your **ARGUMENT**; the Truth will always stand firm on its own and never has to be argued. We should never use the Word of God frivolously and use it to argue our human point of view. This will cause us to neglect and forgot that we should be showing people what a Christian really is. A Christian is someone who emulates Christ who will not pass judgment, who will accept others, because we are sinners ourselves; we should correct others with love, kindness, and delicacy.

Bible tells us, that many of us are just babes to the Spirit; there are Spiritual kids, Spiritual teens, and Spiritual adults. I am not talking about age here, I am talking about the growth of the inner spiritual being we have. Sometimes we correct a newer Christian “a **spiritual baby**” with words of a “**spiritual adult**”. Would your child understand the things you do? Would you treat them as such? We need to realize these things before we speak.

As a Christian we have two options: **1)** we can either accept that which we do not understand regarding what a person is doing or going through spiritually and we just pray for them, or **2)** we support them and still pray.

Romans 14:10 tells us that at the end of time every knee shall bow and confess to God, who will judge us, let's not worry about judging others. If they will not listen to your advice, then do not argue but pray. You may not have seen the vision they see, you may not know or understand what God has put in their heart, but Paul said, if it is from God it will last and prosper, if it is not it will fail and crumble.

All we can do is pray for our Christian brothers, give advice in a loving way and choose to support them or back off and allow God to be God. If the person is with God, then Holy Spirit will make the needed correction to their mind and heart and get them back on the right path. Remember worry does not come from God, do not worry for your brother but pray. Do not fear or judge for these are not of the Lord and was not the example given by the one who we follow and serve as Christians. So next time you are at a crossroad think; “WHAT WOULD JESUS DO” Before opening your mouth or making a decision ask yourself WWJD. God Bless.