



A recent study has found that women who carry a little extra weight live longer than men who mention it.

If we were on a sinking ship & there was only one life vest...I would miss you so.

Aging seems to be the only way to live a longlife.

It helps to have tools such as tracts (good ones!) to hand to people. They can be very effective for them to read later.



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Why Don't We Talk About Our Faith...?

Recently, I've been thinking a lot about how believers are called a 'holy priesthood.' What does it mean to be a priest anyway? What does a priest do? It's simple. They stand between sinful man and a holy God & make intercession for them. Certainly, prayer is uppermost in that role, but in other ways too, such as helping the poor.

But here's something that few people practice in that priestly role. Ezekiel 44:23 says "priests must teach my people the difference between the holy and profane, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean." Hmmm...

Do you want to know your role in life? It's priesthood...a royal one...to t.e.a.c.h. people what is good, right and true!1 Our topic is —to be holy in a sinful world. From pulpits to pews, a great vacuum exists, crying for holiness. People won't know what is profane/common, unless they know holimess.

Society is profane because it doesn't recognize or respect what is holy. Likewise it is unclean... *Why?*

Because the church doesn't know what's 'holy' either. Their 'talk' isn't the *right* talk, thus they raise no standard for society! Holiness is not outward appearances. It's in the inner man...Like Nathaniel who had no guile.

When true revival arrives, it will be a renewal of holiness!

Meantime, what do true believers do? Well...we don't dwell on the past; we don't rehearse the difficulties.

We are forward thinkers. We focus on the possibilities and how to be effective! That's a harvest of souls.

Consider yourself a priest! Do.So.Now. Extend your hand to others and then to God in their behalf to *restore!*

We musn't be more known for what we are *Against*, that what we're *For!* We don't look at the outside – we look inside, and call forth that which is made in the image of God! We focus on the blessings & favor of God! 2

Here are some reasons people don't talk about faith:

- 1. Fear of what others may think. Fear of man is a costly snare to *you*, More to others!.
- 2.You are not wholly convinced yourself. **Is** Jesus real? Hell for certain? Without *certainty*, you won't make it in future trials.! The only cure is -change your mind -Rom 12
- 3. Little faith. You're not convinced God is good. You're more moved by fear than others' sorrow and pain. *It's all about us.* Faith comes by reading the Word...
- 4. Our goals are too high. I learned of a man who found Christ while terminal. He was so affected, he told God he didn't want to go home before leading someone to Christ. God sent him a hospice worker whom he effectively led to God. He died satisfied.
- 5.Our perception of God is too small! We want sinners to act right but they're doing what sinners do- **sin**. Be merciful- it's His *kindness* that leads to repentance. Yet.... we require nothing of believers!
- 6. Sharing our faith doesn't require brilliant quotes of scripture. A "witness" tells what happened to *them!* People are waiting to hear it, and they'll listen to you

I believe the reason we don't share more is *Old movies!* That's right. The devil doesn't want people encouraged or changed! 3 Paul says 'when I would do good, evil is always present'! That's where old movies come in! The devil hops on our shoulder, plays tapes in our mind, showing how we're sinful revealing our mistakels.

He says: "You know you sinned yesterday! And look at you (he's our accuser!)... she doesn't need you! Why she's rich, & you're a nobody! Don't humiliate yourself here! Just wait...Think of yourself!"

Recrimination is why we don't witness, I believe. We don't see ourselves as one sent by God to win a soul or to encourage them that God loves them & wants their best That God cares or We care!

In Romans 7th chapter, are 35 personal pronouns.... of "I", "me" and "my". Paul illustrates here the futility of living in the flesh (or trying to serve God without His guidance.) In the 8th chapter, "NOW he points out therefore, there is **no** condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus...who walk not according to the flesh but the Spirit.4 We're clean now!

When we don't walk in the Spirit, then - by default - we end up following our 5 senses & own intuition. *The flesh*!

We must reject the lies the devil spins in our minds. Even if what he says is right, keep a short tab on sin in your life.5 As **priests** we're called by God to break the chains of bondage in others! Treat it as a matter of life and death....!

That 8th chapter has Spirit in it 16 times. It's about s.e.t.t.i.n.g our mind on the Spirit, not our skills or mere words - but words of Spirit and Life that can change people's lives.6 God knows we are but dust but He uses us anyway, to His Glory.7

Romans 8 reveals that following the flesh is death, but following the Spirit is life & peace! Do you want life & peace? Then reckon yourself dead to sin - old movies - You're clean! Boldly speak for God! If you can't follow the Spirit's guidance now, how will you when fiery trials arrive? Learn. How. Now! 8

I love you more than yesterday! ...Yesterday you got on

MY NERVES

You can't enter beaven unless Jesus enters you. John 3:1-16

Paul explains, when he wants to do good, he *doesn't*, and what he doesn't want to do, he *does*. More people can quote this passage in Rom. 7 than most any other. But it has to be taken in context with the next chapter! It contrasts the 'inability of self to a truly Spirit-led life in Rom. 8

Revive Me Again!

The end of August brought a new Christian movie titled "The War Room". It has made more money than the other movies the Kendrick brothers have made, put together. Its message is a very timely epic to believers on the worth of prayer.

The movie shows prayer isn't pious words & lofty petitions. Effective prayers are just TALKING to God.

Some folks act like prayer is a monologue...to a giant Santa in the sky. But real prayer is a dialogue – if we wait around to see if God has something to say!

The War Room movie shows real people with real troubles & disappointments in a real struggle with a real adversary! Better, it provides them a real Biblical 'out' that will work for anyone – if they will only use those principles!

If you haven't seen the movie, it will change your life when you do. I promise. The DVD will be out soon, and on Christianbook.com is cheaper

This epic film is timely for America. People stood and clapped at the end, weeping and praising the Lord. Some joined hands in the lobby to pray together! Its thrust is to get people praying for their lost loved ones...

It reminds me of a man who, in 1859 wanted to start a prayer mtg at noon in NYC. People laughed & scoffed. But soon the streets were empty at noon! This move spread over the nation. Many souls were saved & bars even closed due to it. Some said, because it preceded the Civil War, many souls were saved before.

I thought of this great revival while watching the

movie. Is this a harvest of souls before war breaks out?

The devil is such a liar and deceiver. He convinces people that God is an ogre of some kind. But it's all a LIE.9

His **presence** brings the <u>fullness</u> of joy. When we set our minds upon Him, we have PERFECT peace!10 That is how we 'pray without ceasing' as Paul says. We talk to God just like He's **real**. He **IS!** We become aware of His tender, abiding presence, always.

King David said: "In thy presence is FULLNESS of joy. At thy right hand is pleasure forevermore." 11 David's heart was perfect before God because he sought & loved His presence.

If we learn how to pray, My Dear Friends, God hears and answers us.12 He is tender and full of mercy toward us and ours!





References: 1. I Peter 2:9 2. Ps One; Matt. 5 3. Rom. 7:21 4. Rom. 8:1-5 5. I John 1:9 6. John 6:63 7. John 14-16. 8. Rom. 8 9. John 6:44 10. Is. 26:3 11. Ps. 16:11

Be Instant In Season, and Out...

Dear Agatha: My problem is simple: I just want you to tell me what is wrong with me! I am a family man with two teens and I've always been interested in civics, voting, vetting candidates, and active in the community. I've taken my role seriously. Until lately. Now newscasts make me ill and currents events are depressing. I see all the problems and know I should be doing something about them...yet I do nothing! I just wish I knew what to do... I look around at good folks & they aren't doing anything either. I'm in a conundrum. Al Dear AI: Proverbs explains a lot of things as they are 'universal principles' that work for (or against) all. Here are a couple of thoughts on this: Prov. 29:2 ...When the wicked rule. the people groan

Also Prov. 28:28. When the wicked rise, people go into hiding. These are societal principles. When people see the corruption in gov't; that congress isn't even doing what it ought to do much less what **we** want them to, then people refrain or withdraw.

We read stories like the one this week where Turkey's Erdogan bribed mostly Republicans with expensive trips and stays. It's like a stupor over Congress that then falls on citizens as well. Is this why scripture tells us to be sober, vigilant, wake up, rise & shine? It's a tendency?

I have this mental image of talking with my children down the line one day. They ask, 'Where were you then, Mom? What did you do to stop what happened...?'

The burden of knowledge is great sometimes. Maybe it's better to just be ignorant!

Oh WAIT! This is the very problem we war with! The low info crowd; the ill-advised.; educated idiots. Our epitaph will be: I.G.N.O.R.A.N.C.E.

We can't do everything, but we must do something. For our children's sake! I've compartmentalized my life into an arena. You have one too. Our arenas merge but you reach folks I don't-as I do

You stand in the center... Every eye is watching YOU! You're the only Bible some will every read, as *living* epistles. You are *responsible* for those in your own arena.

First, to pray for them. Second, to win them via truth when God gives opportunity. Third, do what you CAN. That's all! Jesus is coming!

BOSS to an employee:

Do you believe in life after Death?

EMPLOYEE:

Certainly not, there's no proof of it

BOSS: Well, there is now After you left early yesterday to go to your uncle's funeral, he came here



