

Spiritual Sickness
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First think of prayers often lead at worship services. We pray for physically sick and then we pray for those who are spiritual sick. This got me thinking...

1. What is spiritual sickness?

- a. The opposite of being spiritually healthy
- b. If a plant is sick it is not growing, strong or fit. We are the same in spiritual sickness.

- Matthew 13:18-23

There is one way that the seed can produce life and bear fruit, hear the word and understand it. We must prepare ourselves by pulling the “weeds” out of our life to get this good ground.

- John 15:1-8

We bear fruit only through God’s help and abiding in Jesus. Abiding in Jesus is key to bear fruit and that will be the basic principle in overcoming spiritual sickness.

- 2 Peter 1:5-9

After the list of things we should be adding to our faith, Peter says in verse 8 that if we are increasing in these characteristics we will be fruitful.

Are these characteristics shown in your life as a Christian?

2. Types of sickness

- a. The common cold-Every person catches it at some point and after medication we get better quick.
 - i. Spiritually, this is something we fall into when those around us influence us and we catch a bug.
 - ii. These sins are very easy to be roped into and often times are easy to notice, but we slip up because we are not prepared to get away from those who pass along their sickness.

Abide in Jesus

- b. An allergic reaction-Almost everyone has at least one thing that they must stay away from because if they don’t, they will get sick.
 - i. There are certain sins that we continue to fall into and sometimes they are referred to as habitual sins.
 - ii. It is not something we catch from others, but rather a true battle of the mind where we are put, maybe put ourselves, in situations where there is a temptation to do something we have a history of partaking in.

- iii. Almost everyone has a sin that keeps coming up in their life and we must prepare ourselves to stay away from those situations.

Abide in Jesus

- c. A disease-Something that you are living with that may be harder to notice than signs of a cold or allergies. Diseased people that do not seek help could eventually die...
 - i. You are living with a sin and have not put all things away to follow Christ
 - ii. You could be on your spiritual deathbed.

- 1 Timothy 2:1-3

- This widow is a good example of someone living physically, but yet dead.

- Ephesians 2:1-3

- God through Christ makes us alive. This is done by, first turning from our sins and from the ways of the world.

- iii. If you were once healthy, but find yourself with a disease in your life, turn back and live a healthy life once again

2 Peter 2:20-22, Hebrews 6:4-6

- 3. Responsibility of those who notice someone spiritually sick
 - a. Point out the signs of sickness
 - b. Show how growing and bearing fruit is the definition of being healthy. Matthew 13
 - c. Try to help them abide in Jesus, if they are willing.

- James 5:19-20

- If we notice someone straying and showing signs of sickness, we must try to help because Christians are in the business of saving souls.

John 6:53-57

Sickness always starts from a germ or a bug, but there is no sickness that can be caught if we are consumed with Christ. Christ will lead us to life eternal.

By Blake Edwards – April4, 2010