

FALL RETREAT 2007

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HRAACF, MITACF,
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Camp Maranatha

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Friday Night Sermon

3 definitions of healthy

1. freedom from disease
2. strong, dependable
3. well-being, not sick

Health – haelth (old English word derivative); being whole

- We don't understand the biblical definition of wholeness.

Paul says that we have spirit, soul, and body: (1 Thessalonians 5:23)

- we operate with them as if they are completely separate
- this should be a picture of the trinity; we are 3-part bodies
- learn how to function as a wholistic individual

Body

- 5 sense provide a world-awareness (consciousness); without all of them we don't know about our environment

Soul

- Self-consciousness; makes us aware of who we are
- Mind (how you think), emotions (how you feel), and will (how you make your decisions)
- Soul is where our personality is derived from

The two work together. The body allows the mind to know about the environment. Then the mind understands and has feelings toward the environment. This will drive your actions

- Body → Soul (mind) → Soul (emotions) → Soul (will)

We skip the spirit. We function like this regularly, and we forget that there is a spirit. Our spirit side rarely comes into the decisions that we make.

Spirit

- God-consciousness
 - Conscience – the part of me that God puts there to tell me what's right or wrong without any outside persuasion; conscience part knows God
 - Hebrews 9 – Blood of Jesus clears our conscience from acts that lead to death so we can serve the living God
 - Intuition – gut-feeling that is true; like a women's intuition about her husband cheating; we know its true, but there are no facts that back it up; walk by faith and not by sight; intuition sees God
 - Hebrews 11:1 – faith is the evidence (e = everything, video=see) of things not seen
 - 1 John 2:27 – we are anointed and don't need anyone else to teach us
 - Communal
 - 1 John 3:23-24 – worshippers will worship in spirit and truth

God wants us functions spirit which will affect our souls which will affect our bodies.

- God → Spirit → Soul → Body

Saturday Morning Sermon

Worship must come from the spirit man

- God wants all of our worship (from all 3 parts)
- Worship – worth-ship; position of worth
- Spirit of God speaks to the spirit → spirit man tells soul to worship → mind and emotions tell body to worship
 - This makes the body subject to the spirit man

The spirit man is smaller than the body since the spirit man was born again

- Our body and soul are used to doing their own thing
- Spirit man comes in and tells us what to do

1 Corinthians 2:9-14

- God tells you things not seen or heard that He has prepared for you
 - Mind says that we can't see it
 - Body can't find it either
- God says just because we don't see it doesn't mean it's not there
- God shows us via faith/intuition
- We are always challenged by what we see especially when it is opposite to what God tells us

God speaking

- Sometimes our soul and spirit are really intertwined so the problem is we think that our soul is the word of God
- Hebrews – word of God is the only thing that can divide your soul and spirit

Spirit man growth

- The more the spirit man grows, it becomes the more powerful one
 - It grows through the Word
 - God can also speak through other people
- Are our spirit man strong enough that when we hear something from God, we can act on it even if it is against our other 2
- When God speaks, we must obey (analogy: in grade school we will probably be bumped up anyway if we're 18 and still in 5th grade, but if we don't obey God, we can be stuck in 4th grade until age 81 and not move anywhere)

Community (Fellowship) – how to create a healthy community

- Communication
- Cooperation – working together
- Cultivation – when people get on the ship, they'll watch the culture
 - Emotional, natural
 - Discipleship, how you are and how people respond to that
- Celebration
 - Celebrate the *place*: arrival (like graduation)
 - Celebrate the *process*: learn things about God and about ourselves
 - Celebrate the *people*: showing appreciation towards people around you

Discussion questions:

1. How is your spirit man being fed? Accountability?
2. Community (the 4 Cs): what areas are challenging and need to be worked on?

Saturday Night Sermon

Community – a definition is *social ties*

- Social – interdependence (we often to think of ourselves as intra-dependent)
- Ties – knotted; fasten; connected

Knotted

- Knotting that brings us together
 - Example: a shoelace that is tangled
- If there is knotting between us, it takes some time for us to get the knotting solve
 - This means that if we are in community, it should take some time for you to get untied (break the social tie) to each other
 - We shouldn't just be able to walk away from a relationship that easily
 - Community should last longer than just the time we are immediately with each other

Fasten

- Keeps us secure
 - Example: like a seatbelt
- If our relationship takes a hit, it needs to be secure enough that we are confident
 - We need to honor our relationship or else it will not be secure (i.e. marriage)

Connection

- Such a strong relationship that it is very difficult to break apart
 - Example: like a clip
- Relationships aren't supposed to be disposable, we need to fix and make it strong

Interdependence examples

- Example: catching a football
 - Fingers, palms, wrists, elbows, arms, shoulders, etc... everything
 - A finger can affect the entire system
- Example: Randy Moss catches a football
 - Chain of reaction: Randy Moss → Tom Brady → NE Patriots → Colts → stadium fans → fans watching on TV
 - What we do in our group can affect the world

Application

- We have an interdependence
- Whatever happens to you, also happens to me
 - We need to support each other: fasten/connect to each other
- **We as Christians affect the world**

Strengthening the Spirit-man

1. Word of God
2. Prayer – Ephesians 1:6-7: praying that God will open our intuition so that we can see what He is saying; Habakkuk 2:1: wait to see what God will say to me
 - a. God won't explain everything to us, but demands us to believe

3. Fasting – Isaiah 58:8: fasting puts it in the position where it has clarity [I'm not sure how much that is true for physical fasting because the passage is about the spiritual fast of social justice]
 - a. Fasting is important since when we do it, it shows that the body man is dying and the spirit man is growing
 - b. A day you set aside for your spirit man to be rejuvenated
 - c. Use the time you give up the meal and meet with God

Sunday Morning Sermon (Sarah Shin)

Diverse Community

Israelite

- Fiercely ethnocentric
 - Stay away from bad Jews or non Jews who stop you from worshipping God

Matthew 14:13-20

- Feeding of the 5000
- 5 loaves and 2 fish
- 12 baskets full are like the 12 tribes of Israel

Matthew 15:29-38

- Feeding of the 4000
- 7 loaves and few small fish
- 7 baskets like creation/completion
- In gentile country so the people there “praise the God of Israel”

Possible reasons Disciples did not think miracles would be repeated

1. Miracles can't be repeated
2. Exhausted from ministry and memory is shot
3. Biases against gentiles keep them from desiring/seeing same miracle happen

3. Biases

- In order for Jesus' ministry to be complete He also had to share with the gentiles (12 → 7)
 - This bothers the ethnocentric Disciples

Application to Our Campuses

- What if we struggle with reaching out to people because of our own biases
- Inviting people different from ourselves to a community of faith is NOT a value that we can choose; it is God's value