

## THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE...

The biblical approach to dealing with the issues of life is radically different from the secular. The Bible calls us to repent...to change our thinking. As new creations "in Christ" we are to do two things:

- Recognize our false goals are based on false assumptions about our worth.
- Replace those false assumptions with biblical assumptions.

***"If ye continue in my word, then ye are my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (Jn.8:31-32)***

***Perspective:*** Linear vs. Eternal.....complains vs. praise)

Our natural understanding of life without divine revelation results in an eventual distortion and denial of the truth (neurosis) and possibly a complete break with reality (psychosis). Our false assumptions about what it takes to make us worthy result in experiencing emotions that lead to death (hatred, self-pity, anxiety) ...deficit motivation.

- When we believe the gospel (we are worthy because of our union with Christ), we are free to enter into a new lifestyle of grace and truth.
- As new creations we are free to concern ourselves with our spiritual need: being Christ to others (Jn.13:34-35)

Seeking to meet our needs for security and significance by anything other than the provisions of God in Christ will ultimately lead us to personal dysfunction...Romans 3:10-18 (human nature)

- Without the gospel man is hopeless and helpless as it relates to his condition.
- Gal.2:16...not by law but by faith; there is no spiritual self-improvement program
- Rom. 3:21-28...God makes us righteous by giving us His righteousness as a gift

The total gospel for believers is more than the fact that we have been saved from the guilt, and penalty of our sin. It also includes the fact that we are now being saved from the habit, dominion and power of sin in our lives...Romans 6-8 (God's Regeneration Program)

**WHERE IS YOUR FOCUS?** (Lamentations 3:21-27)

- On living the Christian life?
- On trying to be good?
- Making sure others are good?
- Going to church?
- Being religious?
- ON YOUR TRUE IDENTITY IN CHRIST?