

LSR2, Session 5

Intro

- Previous session:
 - Unusual combo: authority & humility
 - We're to exercise authority over demons, especially those in our domains, and we're to do so strongly but with humility

Character

- Gal 5:22-23, "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control."
 - Does this passage refer to fruit of God's Spirit or fruit of the human spirit?
 - "gentleness" (Gk, *prautes*): gentleness, meekness, considerateness
- 2 Co 10:1 refers to "the meekness and gentleness of Christ."
 - "meekness" (Gk, *prautes*)
 - "gentleness" (Gk, *epieikeia*): gentleness, kindness, mildness
 - How is this verse relevant to us?
- Eph 4:2, "Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love."
 - "gentle" (Gk, *prautes*)
- Col 3:12, "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience."
 - "gentleness" (Gk, *prautes*)
 - What does the phrase, "clothe yourselves," suggest about these traits?
- Tit 3:1-2, "Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good, to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate, and to show true humility toward all men."
 - "true humility" (Gk, *prautes*)
 - How should *prautes* affect our interaction with rulers, authorities and all people?
 - What example do the gospels provide for Jesus' "true humility" toward rulers and authorities?
 - How relevant are these verses to our involvement in spiritual activities? Why?
- Conclusion
 - As we learn to use the authority God gave us, it is **imperative** we put off our worldly ways of thinking and acting, and put on godly character.

Spiritual Development

- Spiritual Senses — Practical Application
 - You encounter a problem or need
 - “Dial down,” get quiet inside; let God speak to you about what needs to be done
 - original text of Heb 5:14 describes those who practiced & trained their senses to distinguish good from evil; referring to spiritual senses, not physical
 - God will communicate with you through your spiritual senses:
 - “hear” him tell you what the problem is & what you should do
 - “see” the cause of the problem — mental image
 - “feel” a sensation seemingly in *your* body that reveals the person’s problem
 - “taste” or “smell” something that helps identify the problem
 - “impression”
 - Are these sensations from God — what you hear, see, feel, taste, smell — or are you sensing what’s around you in the spiritual realm?
 - Important point:
 - you’re not responsible for producing the needed results
 - you’re a messenger, a delivery person, an ambassador/representative of the king
 - you’re doing God’s work his way with his resources
 - you do your part & anticipate God doing his part
 - you set things up then God produces the results
- Conclusion
 - God gave you spiritual senses so you can be aware of the spiritual realm, which is essential to your spiritual effectiveness.

Spiritual Experiences

- Miracles, signs, wonders
 - Gk, *dynamis*: (1) ability to perform an activity; (2) power in action; (3) mighty deed, miracle; (4) supernatural power; et al
 - Gk, *semeion*: sign, either a normal sign or a miraculous sign
 - Gk, *teras*: portent, wonder, miracle; something strange or amazing
- Mt 24:24, “For false Christs and false prophets will

appear and perform great signs and miracles to deceive even the elect — if that were possible.”

- “signs and miracles”: “*semeion, teras*”
- 2 Th 2:9, “The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with the work of Satan displayed in all kinds of counterfeit miracles, signs and wonders.”
 - “miracles, signs and wonders”: “*dynamis, semeion, teras*”
- Jn 5:19, “Jesus gave them this answer: ‘I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does.’”
 - What does that reveal about Jesus’ use of his spiritual senses?
- Jn 6:38, “For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me.”
 - What does this reveal about Jesus’ motivation?
- Jn 17:4, “I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do.”
- Eph 2:10 refers to “good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”
 - How should Jesus’ example affect our attitude about the work God gave us to do?
- Jesus’ miracles (representative)
 - raising the dead
 - widow’s son (Lk 7:12-15)
 - synagogue ruler’s daughter (Lk 8:49-55)
 - Lazarus (Jn 11:38-43)
 - miraculous healings (deaf, blind, lame)
 - Lk 7:22, “Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor.”
 - turning water into wine (Jn 2:1-11)
 - walking on water (Mt 14:22-27)
 - Lk 4:28-30, “All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him down the cliff. But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.”
 - withering the fig tree (Mt 21:28-30)
- Jesus is the firstborn/prototype of many
- Jn 14:12, “I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater

things than these, because I am going to the Father.”

- Jesus was fully human as you are
- Jesus had the Holy Spirit within him, as you do
- Jesus was a son of God, as you are a child of God
- Jesus said, “anyone who has faith in me **will do** what I have been doing”
- 1 Co 12:28, “And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues.”
 - “workers of miracles” (Gk, *dynamis*), (see above)
 - phrase: “then workers of miracles,” Greek literally: “then *dynamis*”
- vs 29-30, “Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret?”
 - Is it possible for you to prophesy even if you’re not a prophet? Is it possible for you to teach if you’re not a teacher? Is it possible for you to minister healing to others if you don’t have the gifts of healing? Then is it possible for **you** to work miracles?
 - Jesus said anyone who has faith in him will do what he did; he performed miracles, signs & wonders
- Conclusion
 - God has prepared works for you to do and some of those will be extraordinary and qualify as miracles, signs or wonders.

Blessing

- May Father stre-e-e-etch your thinking so you begin to see yourself doing what Jesus did on earth, including miracles, signs and wonders.

Daily Activities

- Get ready to journal. Meditate on one of the following scriptures, ask Father how it applies to you, then record in your journal anything you sense — spontaneous words, dialog, images, feelings, aromas, tastes or impressions.

Mt 14:15-21; Mt 9:18-25; Lk 5:12-13; Mk 4:35-40; Jn 5:19; Jn 14:12