

## **Reset Chapter 5 (Our spiritual life)**

### **Questions for discussion**

#### **1. What to do with our Spiritual side?**

We are Physical beings. We are also spiritual beings. Where is our character? Where is our soul? Why do we exist differently than other animals? We love, care, fight, and search for meaning. Do animals do that? We have a living spiritual side that is fueled by a spiritual God. Have you been wondering about the spiritual at times? Could it be God calling you to him? Maybe there is another side to you that is not in the mirror.

*To reset ourselves means to come back to the beginning. Sometimes we need to revisit what messed us up. Spiritually, it is easy to get messed up. There is so much opportunity to explore the spiritual in our world. There are many vastly different kinds of churches. It's a smorgasbord for all types of people to feast on like Mormon, Baptist, Alliance, and hundreds of others. Dip into Astrology, Tarot cards, Satan worship, and many other forms of the spiritual. It's big business to read palms, tell fortunes, and look to the stars for answers. The spiritual is all around us. Chapter 5, p, 1*

#### **2. We are messy people that are loved by God**

We make mistakes. We do what is called sin. Rumour has it that God hates sin. That is true but there is another rumour: God loves the people he created. If you invented something and it didn't work right would you automatically throw it out? No, you would work at it until you succeed. It's the same with God, he is at work on his less than perfect messy people. If you took the time to read the Bible, you would see a process. From Eden to now God is making progress. He is not done yet with you.

*Think about it. Adam and Eve sinned. Their first offspring became killers, yet God let the line continue. Abraham disobeyed God but the family grew. Moses killed a man but he is the leader God chose. David became the greatest king, yet his adultery and murdering ways haunted him. God however, wrote much of the Bible through these men. Paul killed Christians and Peter was a mess. Our Christian life comes from messy people. How we treat God seems to be of little consequence to God. Chapter 5, p, 3*

#### **3. What happens if God is needed to complete us?**

We are always searching for a better way. Oddly enough I will use this example. In my youth we looked for better ways to smoke pot. Guys came up with the most ridiculous contraptions. The same could be said of the lightbulb or automobile. People have gone to extraordinary lengths to find themselves in places like the mountains of Tibet. We are searchers for better ways to do life. What if all this, is really fore play about finding our meaning in God. The journey to God is about a journey towards understanding who we were meant to be.

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*There is not a single person ever born on this planet that does not search for meaning in life. Countless books and movies have been made about our desire for something better. We see it in Sinbad cruising around the seas in search of adventure. On TV, we love Star trek seeking out new worlds and new civilizations and to boldly go where no man has gone before. In books, we love the Harlequin Romance searching for love. We all want to be complete. The answer is really found in God. He completes us. It just kills me when Jesus stood outside the Jerusalem walls with tears in his eyes in Luke 19:42 saying "If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace, - but now it is hidden from your eyes." I cringe at the thought of you being so close and yet so far from the truth about who God is and who you really are. Chapter 5, p, 7*

### **4. Don't blame Jesus for the church we have?**

People are messy and mistake makers. That does not give them a right to be awful. I get that. We do need to give people some slack because they need to give that same grace to us. If I lend my car to you and you kill someone don't blame me. Don't blame Jesus for the mess in the church. There are good churches and good Christians. I say be a good one rather than hate the bad ones. Be a good example. Make your church accountable for bad non Christ like behaviour. Be light rather than darkness

*Ok, I could go on and on about problems with in the church. It's not fair to the good churches to just tell the bad stuff. If you're done with religion; if you're done with church just look at me. I have been severely bombed by those who call themselves Christians. For some reason God wanted me to experience what so many of you have with Christians. However, I love what church represents. I love what church can do for the community. I just want to touch on a few more examples just so you know that you're not alone in being church bombed.*

*It's like this "Out with the bad air and in with the good air." To reset or begin again at first you must be rescued. A doctor must know what happened before he can treat you. Jesus does know what has happened. I can confidently say he is not pleased with what the church has become. How can I possibly say that? For two reasons: one is that Jesus attacked the church in his day, plus He also blasted the church in Revelation 2 and 3. The smallest verse in the Bible is "Jesus wept." I think if there was another one that small it would say "Jesus knows." Chapter 5, p, 11*

### **5. In reality "We did it."**

Who is left holding the bag in a crime? It's usually some dumb smoo who didn't run. Maybe he or she was just an innocent bystander. Most times the guy holding the bag did it. In our lives people let us down. Churches make bad decisions. I know people are not perfect. What if we cause quite a bit of our own pain? We don't leave a bad relationship. We run with the wrong crowd. We marry a risky person. Maybe we need to take more

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responsibility for our poor choices. Did Jesus let the church run amuck? Maybe we took what he meant for good and made it bad. In many of our life's choices "We did it."

*To reset is to rethink about who did it. God set it up and provided all we need. He is willing to fuel our lives with the Holy Spirit. We must separate the actions of people with the actions of God. God gave but "WE" did it. We abused, cheated, and lied. We have agendas, theology, and sins. One thing is for sure. If Jesus is holy and sinless then who sinned in his church: WE DID! Chapter 5, p, 14*

### **6. Misery loves company**

We have a choice like I stated in the first chapter. Do we want to live or die? I heard the other day a man talk about the mindset of a certain city. He said "They refuse to attend CFL football because it is not the NFL." The funny or sad part is that he asked this Question "So you're willing to do nothing if you can't have what you think is the best"? This is my thought to you. Do you refuse to believe in God because of bad people? So you would rather go to hell because hellish people treated you bad? The Good God who condemns hellish people is sad because of that.

*"We are accepted by God. Are you any different than all the great sinners of the past? Didn't Paul say he was the chief of sinners? Wasn't Moses denied to enter the promise land because of his sin? Wasn't David denied to build God a house because of his sin? They did it but God still loved them. People can trash you and say they do it in the name of God but in the end they did it. Church can say they are justified in how they do business but in the end they did it. That does not give you a good reason not to believe. Do you know that"? Chapter 5, p, 15*