

Cornerstone Faith of West Liberty
1 Corinthians 12:1—Who are you?
September 8, 2024

I. Introductory comments

- Gifts is italicized meaning not in original language—(1 Cor. 2:13-14; Rom. 8⁷6-8; John 14:16-17)
Romans 8:6-8 (NKJV) *For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.*
⁷ Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. ⁸ So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

II. Who are you?

- Not what are you, Not where are you, Not when are you—currently alive in this time period and Not why are you
- Who are you—(identification—preposition with)
 - o Crucified – yes – Gal. 2:20
 - o Laid Jesus in the tomb—yes – Rom 6
 - o Rose up from the dead – yes – Risen with him
 - o When Jesus descended – yes
 - o When he defeated satan – yes – Col. 2 :14-15
 - o When he ascended and seated at right hand – yes—seated with Christ in heavenly places—Eph 2:4-6
- Because of who you are
 - o Satan is under your feet – Rom 16:20
 - o Satan flees from submitted believer – James 4:7
 - o Can go through temptation – 1 Cor. 10:13
 - o You are the temple of God—He dwells in you – 1 Cor. 3:16-17
 - o Jesus never leaves us or forsakes us Matt 28:18 – He would need to leave His temple
 - o The power of God resides in you—Eph 3:20-21
 - o You are the light of the world and salt of the earth – Matt 5:13-16
- So is this your experience—some reasons why it might not be you
 - o New believer—just recently saved
 - o Ignorance – you have no clue who you really are
 - o Still a little child spiritually—Heb. 5:12-14
 - o Unbelief/disobedience—Heb. 3:17-19

III. Spiritual things are spiritually discerned – how mature are you

Life begets the kind of life it is → whales beget whale, cats beget cats, dogs beget dogs, etc. Human life begets human life (1st Adam) and the Spirit life begets spirit life (Last Adam). What kind of life are you begetting in your everyday life? What kind of soil are you?

The parable of the soils (Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23; Mark 4:1-20; Luke 8:4-15)

- NOTE: the first three soils all die out before they are able to be part of the KOG—only those who bear good fruit will enter the KOG
- In other words, it is time to stop playing games. It is time to stop playing footsie with the devil and the world (they are our enemies) and get serious about our walk of faith with Jesus
- The kind of fruit our life is producing makes a difference.
- Today is time of self-evaluation – 2 Cor. 13:5
2 Corinthians 13:5 (NKJV) *Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?--unless indeed you are disqualified.*
 - o Only two destinations—heaven/light/life/ God or hell/darkness/death/satan

IV. Assessment tool—are you really a Child of God?

Parable of wheat and tares—(Matt. 13:24-30)

- Which are you? Which are we as a congregation?
 - o In other words, tares look like wheat until they are ripe for harvest then they can clearly be seen they are not wheat
 - We may think we have a solid foundation because of hanging on for the last 210—175—75—50—15 years but does God think we have a solid foundation? (Parable of houses—Matt. 7:24-27)
 - It is imperative at this stage to begin to ask ourselves—who are we? How did we get here? What do we believe God envisions for Cornerstone Faith? Among other questions
1. Do you move toward the things of light or of darkness (John 3:19-21)
 2. Are you able to discern spiritual things—what is right and what is wrong consistently according to the word of God (Heb 5:12-14)
 3. Is the seed of life growing in your life and producing fruit (fruit of Spirit, souls saved, people witnessed to, etc.
 4. Is your life more like the world or more like Jesus then when you were saved? 10 years ago, 5 years ago, 2023?
 5. Do people know you as a Christian and ask about your faith or are you one of the crowd? (1 Pet. 3:15—hope lies within)
- 1 Peter 3:15 (NKJV)** *But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;*

These questions help us determine if we have a relationship with Jesus as one of His followers or if we are faking it—which are you (real or fake)? Which are we (real or fake)?