

## Wednesday Word

John 3:21-“But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.”

This past weekend I went out to University Place to help some folks build a little fence for their dogs. A good Airforce and Lutheran Family that just bought a home near where I grew up. Their new home was about a block from where I went to high school so many memories of this neighborhood came flooding back to me.

Since I graduated High School and moved out of University Place, I would always tell stories of a bomb shelter that was behind the high school. We would skip class (I know so bad) and go to the bomb shelter to hide until next class. This shelter was just a concrete bunker built into the hillside of someone’s back yard. As a young teenager I never really thought about why it was built or who built it or why. I just knew it was a fun place to hide out when school got too boring for me (Again, I know, so bad).

Well, it just so happens that the folks I was helping with their fence was the same property that the bomb shelter was built at. As I talked with the owners of the property, I heard the entire story of the property and why the bomb shelter was put there. The property had been in the original owner’s family since the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and the shelter was built due to fear during WWII for the family and the neighbors.

I find it interesting that as a kid, I would go into this small underground shelter with absolutely no knowledge of its history or background. But years later, I now know the full history of that property and particularly that shelter.

I have found this similar lesson true in other areas of my life. I look at situations and just accept them for what they are without understanding the full story behind it. In fact, I have gotten myself in trouble at times when I only hear one side of the story and base my opinions and actions on that limited information. Once I pull back and look at the entire picture, I find myself seeing things quite a bit differently.

We can apply these thoughts to many different situations. We have a heated political and election cycle where we are hearing half the truth from media outlets and politicians themselves. We all could relate to having relationship confusion due to only hearing one side of the story. We can even read parts of Gods Word without the full context and be completely deceived by what we thought the Bible was saying.

In today’s culture of confusion, it is important that we find the truth. The truth doesn’t always reveal itself right away; many times it takes a few conversations, or extra time in prayer, study and thought. Whatever situation we are in it is important that we have the full truth. Truth leads to freedom from the burden of sin that attaches itself to the lie that is presented to us. If we are following what we think is the truth and it leads to behavior and

responses that the Bible tells us to reject, we need to prayerfully evaluate our perspective. Truth leads to freedom and freedom bears the fruit of the Spirit.

Let's keep these ideas in mind this week.

I love you and God Loves You!

Pastor Eric Lundberg