Subject: Confessions of a Hypocrite
Posted by grandom on Fri, 22 May 2009 16:23:08 GMT
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I am a hypocrite!!! I may not be alone, but I`m speaking for myself.
The Holy Sprit has been dealing with me for some time on this.This has become amplified
To me with the discussions of women in leadership etc. We Christians are a strange lot.
We can be so pious, quoting scripture, expecting others to obey the whole canon of scripture and yet we have our pet little things that are clearly stated in the word and yet we choose to disobey them and justify in our hearts and minds we are correct in doing so.

I am referring to Heb 10:24-25
24) And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:

25) Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

Abiding and William said we go to church so others wont stumble. Hmm. I'm not sure that's what Paul had in mind but verse 24 does say let us consider one another. I`m not fussing here with you folks or any one else. I`m trying to arrive at what The Holy Spirit is trying to teach me.

Some how we (I) have lost the concept of assembling our selves and worshipping the Lord. Its been said and by me also I don't go because I don't get fed or I _____ fill in the blanks with our justifications of not going. When did it become about us. Me Me Me, I, I ,I. It`s supposed to be about worshipping the Lord. Is that not my responsibility? Am I going to be entertained by the choir or the song leader? Should it not be in my heart that no matter what any one else says or does I`m going to ascribe worship to my saviour who died for me and is worthy? If the leaders wont allow the moving of the Holy Spirit, is that a justifiable reason not to go? FA is gone, never to be again. We have got to get over it and move on and obey ALL the word.

Brothers and sisters, if were going to be adamant in our understanding of the role of women in the church then we best be adamant about Heb 10:25 also or anything else we choose not to obey. Maybe thats why were not walking in total victory or were not operating in the power that we desire.

This is not easy for me to post. If I`m alone in this guilt Praise The Lord. As Brother Freeman used to say. If the shoe fits wear it. If not kick it off. It seems to be fittin me perfectly so I do repent.

BTW He is giving me an exhortation on grieving the Holy Spirit also. It`s not going to be easy to post that one either.

See you all in church sunday.

Subject: Re: Confessions of a Hypocrite
Posted by william on Fri, 22 May 2009 19:03:30 GMT
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Yes, I'm guilty as well.

I freely confess that my reasons are not really good either.

This particular issue was brought home to me when I started going through the book of Luke. Jesus was in the synagogue when they met. Now it is my understanding that the synagogues were not exactly paragons of 'the model Church'. He spent much of His time rebuking the attitudes of the scribes and Pharisees... they were presumably members of the synagogues that Jesus attended. Yet attend He did!

It may be presumptuous to equate synagogue attendance with church attendance (I know, it is not the building, it is assembly of believers!), but there may be a lesson here. The Church was patterned after the synagogues... in fact the early Church was for the most part Jewish, so their meetings would most naturally be similar to those synagogues.

Jesus was there when they met even though I'm pretty sure they didn't represent an idealized Church in practice...

I've known, or believed for some time now that if we are to ever see the message that we have received, the sound teaching (that took us years to absorb) propagated to others, it will require us to associate with fellow believers regardless of how shallow we may perceive them to be. (Not trying to sound elitist here!)

Do we expect that at some point in the future God's Church will suddenly change into the kind of Church we would like to be a part of? I think it would be more likely that God would use those (however imperfect we are) who have at least experienced a taste of the good bread.

Sure, we would all like a wand to wave over the believers in our community and voila! a great FA-like Church! I don't think it is going to happen like that. Not that it won't eventually get done... He's returning for

a Church that has made herself ready... but maybe, just maybe, He will use us in some small way to affect this change.

Blessings,
William

Subject: Re: Confessions of a Hypocrite
Posted by JWBTI on Fri, 22 May 2009 21:34:12 GMT
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A Letter to the Choir:

1 Cor 14:26 How is it then, brethren? when ye come together, every one of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. Let all things be done unto edifying. (KJV)

I know that Iâ€™m preaching to the choir, so pay attention ! (smile)

How is it Brothers and Sisters, if we donâ€™t come together, How can God manifest his Gifts thru us ? All of you on this board have been Gifted Abundantly, what are you doing with those Gifts ? Are you hiding them under a basket ? Are you waiting for some great Out pouring of the Holy Spirit to happen, before God moves you to obey Him ?

Grandom is right ! Itâ€™s not about you or I, Itâ€™s about the Love and compassion you have for those in the Body of Christ. Have we been given the Word ? Do we have Faith in that Word ? What Gifts are you withholding from the Body of Christ, by not assembling your selves with others ?

Subject: Re: Confessions of a Hypocrite
Posted by Abiding on Tue, 26 May 2009 20:15:04 GMT
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Grandom, I just wanted to say that I really appreciated your exhortation and encouragement in this area. I love the Lord, I love His Word, I want to *always* love gathering together with His

people in church again, too! I do think about the freedom we have to gather openly and don't take that for granted. Not all countries have this freedom.

I hope you had a blessed Sunday in church with fellow-believers!

Quote:BTW He is giving me an exhortation on grieving the Holy Spirit also. It`s not going to be easy to post that one either.

I hope you can soon share what you believe the Lord has given you concerning grieving the Holy Spirit, too.

Subject: Re: Confessions of a Hypocrite
Posted by GWB on Tue, 26 May 2009 22:47:01 GMT
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Grandom,

I have not had much time, lately, to jump in with postings due to helping out with grandkids.

When I do get the time, I am really blessed when you share what Jesus has given to you to post. For that matter, I enjoy reading and thinking about everything my brothers and sisters have to say.

It has been so long since I have been able to discuss the Word the way we do here. It has helped to clear up, not only questions and concerns, but my life as well.

I encourage you to post when you feel like He would have you do so.

Blessings,

GWB

Subject: Re: Confessions of a Hypocrite
Posted by william on Wed, 27 May 2009 00:01:58 GMT
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Hey Grandom,

Sorry about joking around in the other thread about your intent to visit

other Churches. I had noticed that you hadn't come back on to give us an update and my wife said that you probably were offended by our light-hearted comments concerning your heartfelt convictions, please do accept my apologies. I find myself using humor as a shield against things that deeply affect me, this isn't good. Open dialog among brothers and sisters should be first and foremost in all of our dealings with each other.

I was looking forward to hearing about your experiences and hope that you will give us an update.

We have visited many Churches since moving back to Alabama and while many were not good experiences, we have learned a lot about our own attitudes and the importance of keeping the right perspective toward those who are fellow believers.

Remember, the older men are to be examples to the younger men... with Solomon, we confess that we know not how to go out or come in.

Blessings,
William

Subject: Re: Confessions of a Hypocrite
Posted by grandom on Wed, 27 May 2009 15:18:55 GMT
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GWB wrote on Tue, 26 May 2009 17:47Grandom,
When I do get the time, I am really blessed when you share what Jesus has given to you to post.

Thank you for the encouragement. I would wish that from time to time the Lord would give me something easy. Something to tickle the ears.

Since He has such love for us alas He gives hard things.
I guess His deciples felt the same.

Jn6:60 Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard this, said, This is an hard saying; who can hear it?

v61)When Jesus knew in himself that his disciples murmured at it, he said unto them, Doth this offend you?

v66) many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him.

It is hard because I always know first and foremost it always applies to me. We can get so busy in our lives that pretty soon we dont have time to listen to what the spirit is saying.We dont take time to commune with Him. Then there is a way that seemeth right to man but the end therein is destruction.He said this is the way walk ye in it. But we can choose to ignore it and be in rebellion. Not my way Lord but show me the way.

I am blessed that you have Grandkids to keep you busy. Mine are all grown and going their own ways. No more setting on Grandpas lap.

This forum is a blessing and by Gods will it will continue to be.

Ps119:15 I will meditate in thy precepts, and have respect unto thy ways.

Dick