

# GOSPEL COMMUNITY CHURCH

## PULPIT SERIES

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## JESUS DRIVEN CHURCH

### WHOLENESS

We have learned a lot about what we have called “The Giving God.” Here is a quick outline of what Jesus gave:

#### HE GAVE TO HIS FATHER:

- Pleasure
- Himself as a sacrifice to absorb the wrath of God
- Himself to become a ransom for many
- Himself to provide the basis for justification

#### HE GAVE TO US:

- Eternal life
- The protection for this eternal life
- The enablement to live by faith in Him
- Deliverance from this present evil world
- Power over evil
- All things that are good
- A passion for good works
- A secure resurrection from the dead
- Knowledge and light
- Peace
- A new commandment

#### SALVATION

In essence Jesus gave to us salvation. However salvation is really a process: We were saved from the *penalty* of sin; We are being saved from the *power* of sin; We will be saved from the *presence* of sin.

The Greek word (primary root) translated salvation is “sozo” (sode - zo) which means, to save, to heal, to preserve, or to make whole. Jesus gave His life to make us WHOLE. Leopold Kronecker has said, “God made integers, all else is the work of man”. So another to look at God’s salvation process is that He makes us people of INTEGRITY. God is putting things together, while sin is tearing things apart. God wants integers, while Satan wants to make fractions (divide). God’s great purpose is to “gather together in one, all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him.” (Eph 1:10) He cannot accept neutrality just as Jesus explains, “He that is not with me is against me: and he that gathereth not with me scattereth.” (Luke 11:23) Until

the consummation of all things in Christ, we must live in a world of fractions and experience the problems associated with this fragmentation. The chief instrument in world today for putting things together is the **CHURCH**.

The **CHURCH** is God’s representative organism:

- Comes under the authority of the FATHER
- Is led by the Word of God which is JESUS
- And is enlightened and empowered by the HOLY SPIRIT

Those who are born-again, washed in the precious blood of Jesus are the church. The church is not the steeple it’s the people. In order to do this job we must be saved, whole, people who have integrity. If there is to be one place where shattered people from our fractured society ought to find wholeness and integrity, it is in the church. After all aren’t we reconciled to God and united to one in other in the Spirit?

## INTEGRITY

The word “integrity” means wholeness, entireness, or completeness. It comes from the word “integer” (root) which means untouched, intact, or entire. A person with integrity is not divided (duplicity) or a pretender (hypocrisy). In other words he has nothing to hide, and has nothing to fear. His life is an open book.

Lets look how Jesus describes integrity.

*Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness! No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon. (Matt 6:19-24)*

If you look carefully you will see that Jesus’ idea of integrity includes the whole inner man: the heart, the mind, and the will. In other words he has a:

## SINGLE HEART

Doesn’t try to love God and world at the same time. His heart is in heaven, and that’s where his treasure is.

*I Jn 2:15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.*

*Matt 22:37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.*

## SINGLE MIND

Has a single outlook (eye) that keeps life going in the right direction. It is outlook that determines outcome.

*James 1:8 A double-minded man is unstable in all his ways*

Lot was a double-minded man that’s why he chose a house in Sodom instead of a tent in the holy camp of Abraham. Abraham had single vision for he knew he was a stranger and pilgrim on earth, therefore his eyes of faith were firmly fixed on God and the heavenly city.

## SINGLE WILL

He seeks to serve one master. Peter Forsythe said, “the first duty of every soul is to find not its freedom but its Master.” Once you find your Master, Jesus, you will find your freedom.

*John 8:36 If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.*

Nobody can successfully serve two masters. To do so would make you a fractional person who doesn’t have integrity. We must have a:

- Single heart
- Single mind
- Single will

## HYPOCRISY

*I Jn 1:5-6 This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:*

Hypocrisy is the first step to inner darkness. We are hypocrites when we:

- Preach what we don’t practice
- Pray things we don’t mean
- Pretend to do what we don’t do

But pretense is only the beginning, the first step.

*I Jn 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.*

At this point we are not just lying to others, but we now lie to ourselves. Hypocrisy now becomes duplicity. We are no longer pretending, but lying has become a way of life. And we don’t see anything wrong with it. It doesn’t end here either.

*I Jn 1:10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.*

Now we are no longer lying to others and to ourselves, but we are trying to lie to God, and in doing so, we are making Him a liar. We read God's word and feel no conviction.

Why? Because the moral decay within has turned light into darkness. Hypocrisy has turned into duplicity, and duplicity has produced apostasy. It all starts with a double-heart that encourages a double-mind and a double-will.

Can such a tragedy be avoided?

#### WALK IN THE LIGHT

Yes. The answer is to walk in the light. Keeping the inner man:

- Honest
- Sincere
- Clean before God

#### ONE THING PEOPLE

We must "one thing" people

*Ps 27:4 **ONE THING HAVE I DESIRED** of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.*

*Luke 10:42 But **ONE THING IS NEEDFUL**: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.*

*Phil 3:13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but **THIS ONE THING I DO**, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,*

We must follow Paul's advice:

*Col 3:1-2 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.*

Jesus wants us to be whole because:

- We belong to one another
- We need one another
- We affect one another
- We can't escape one another

That's why when we start to lie to one another – hypocrisy, and then lie to ourselves – duplicity, INTEGRITY vacates the scene. The eventual result is apostasy – making God a liar. People get surprised, even shocked when this happens. Those involved will even defend themselves against their accusers.

What has happened?

Light has become darkness, and the people can no longer discern right from wrong. Integrity means that light shines within because the person has a single heart, a single mind and a single will. If you want a Jesus description of who this person is:

*Matt 7:21-23 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.*

When all is said and done,

- Saying the right words,
- Carrying the right credentials,
- Preaching good sermons,
- Caring for people's problems,
- Even performing miracles,

Can never take the place of doing the WILL OF GOD. The tragedy today is that many can't tell the difference between the REAL and the COUNTERFIET

We are living in a culture that Isaiah has warned us about, "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!" (Isa 5:20)

It is time for God's people to walk in wholeness. If you sense that this is not you, why not get alone with God and pour your situation out on him. After all this is what Peter tells us to do, "Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you." (1 Pet 5:7)