



14- Know: We Need Each Other *1 John 5:16-21*

1 John 5:16-21 If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it. 17 All unrighteousness is sin: and there is a sin not unto death. 18 We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not. 19 And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness. 20 And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life. 21 Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.

There are fewer things in life that are more important when the chips of life are down than other believers lifting us up. They are lifting us up in prayer, with words of encouragement and comfort. Words of exhortation to stay on task and encouragement through the hard times are important for all of us. Beloved, we do not live on an island but are more like parts of the forest that gives support to the other by their roots becoming intertwined. We simply need each other to live our lives to their fullest potential.

I- On Guard:

One of the things that I have learned over the years as a hunter is that two sets of eyes, ears, noses, and instinct are harder to fool than one. When we have others around us watching out for us we will be less likely to be harmed by the enemy of the soul. We see that evidenced here by the call of John to be on guard to protect each other. This is set in the context of the assurance of prayer that we looked at in the last session.

1 John 5:16 If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death...

So it is apparent that we indeed need each other to protect ourselves from ourselves as well as outside influences and the enemy.

Paul told us in *2 Corinthians 2:11* **Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.**

One thing that Satan likes to do is convince us that we do not need each other, that we can go it alone. The Bible does not teach us this. In fact we see that we are to jointly bear each other's burdens. *Gal 6:1-2* **Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. 2 Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.**

So how do we restore someone who has fallen? I had a good friend who said it was done this way. "Love them a lot, rebuke them a little, live them a lot more than rebuke them a little more."

The ones we need to minister to will not hear what we say until they see that we love them and have their best interest at heart. If the shoe were on the other foot and someone needed to come to you about a matter how

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would you want them to approach it. This is the way we should approach others.

II- Seriousness:

Another tactic of the enemy is that he tries to get us to trivialize the seriousness of sin and the consequences. It is just a little sin, a little wrong and everybody does it.

You may have seen the bulletin board that said, "I am serious about this sin thing. God" May I say that God is serious about this sin thing. How do we know that? Look at the consequences of sin from Calvary and the sacrifice of Christ and then tell me He is not serious about sin, deadly serious.

1 John 5:16b-17 ...There is a sin unto death: 17 I do not say that he shall pray for it. All unrighteousness is sin: and there is a sin not unto death.

Now it is obvious if there is a sin that leads to death that we are told to no even bother to pray about sin is serious. In one sense all sin leads to death and in fact it was the sin of Adam that cause death by sin. *Romans 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:*

Now notice we me *Romans 5:17-19 For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.) 18 Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life. 19 For as by one man's disobedience many*

were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

Serious, yes! Why is God serious about sin and why should we be serious in our leaning on each other for strength and other things? Because of its destruction in lives is why. The good news is God provides a way to deal with our sin in Christ.

Notice *1 John 5: 20 And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.*

III- Walking Together on the Path:

1 John 5:18 We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not. 19 And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.

Now I will admit this is a hard part of the Scriptures. I have always felt that it is saying that the part of us that is redeemed at our new birth is not capable of sin. The real man, whether we refer to it as soul or spirit or both, is the part that is made perfect. The body awaits redemption. Paul talked about the warfare within and here we see that Satan cannot touch the part of man that God has redeemed. Does this give us permission to go do whatever crosses our mind and path? I say not. John said in *1 John 5:21 Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.* Beloved remember we need each other in our journey of Love, Light and Life and most of all we need the Lord Jesus.