

Intimacy comes through Discernment

We're going to talk about intimacy and also being sensitive. It doesn't talk about those in the scriptures being sensitive, because they were tough people. But there are some words that are used that are similar to what we use today. We're supposed to have intimacy with God. Unless you have intimacy with Him you will never hear God. Jesus said those that hear My voice are Mine. My sheep hear My voice. If you've never heard God's voice I would be scared, because Jesus said My sheep hear My voice and they follow and obey. Jesus leads us to green pastures and quiet waters. The church is the bride and if we are the bride we have to develop a level of intimacy with our husband, who is Jesus. How do we become intimate with God? How do we know? And how does God respond?

Hebrews 4:12, *For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword.* The sword cuts coming and going, because both sides are sharp. It's sharp in that it severs that which is flesh and that which is spiritual. Why is that important? In the Old Testament God said when you make an altar for Him, don't make it out of hewn stones. Don't do anything to that stone, because no matter what you do, you can't make the altar holy. You can't make it look pretty. You can't make it acceptable to Him, because from the day Adam and Eve sinned you were polluted by the kingdom of satan. Jesus came to break the power of sin that we might come back to that place of being holy. This verse is one of the strongest in the Bible in showing us how to use the word of God. The word is hardly ever used anymore in the church. It's all theology and thinking of man. But it doesn't matter what I think or what you think. On the first day of creation God made what He thought: the kingdom of darkness and the kingdom of light. It doesn't matter what you think. What matters is what God set as the standard of those who will live with Him forever. He doesn't have to wonder, will this one make it, or will that one? He already had it planned out before He even made man so we have to come to His standard. That standard doesn't change. So here it says that the word is quick. You can quickly see the difference between the kingdom of God and the kingdom of satan. For instance, you can quickly see that homosexuals cannot reproduce any children. They will never reproduce. Why? Because God didn't make it that way. It's quick and easy to see those kinds of things but when you become born again and know God in an intimate way you can do the same thing in almost every area of your life or others' lives just by what you see happening. The word is the sharpest thing there is in dividing the kingdom of satan and the kingdom of God. *...piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit.* Those that are not born again still have the soul that is completely polluted. It hasn't been cleansed. No matter what you do you can't change that soul. The only person that can change a soul is the Lord. Jesus died for your soul to be saved. He is the only one who can change it, and if you don't have intimacy with Him, He can't change it. When Christ comes to live in you, you have a change of the fallen spirit, which is the breath of God, to the Holy Spirit, which is of a divine nature. He has come to teach you how to become intimate with the Word of God, who is Christ, so you can have quick discernment, what you should do and what you shouldn't do. *...and of the joints and marrow....* If I didn't have joints I couldn't get up in the morning. I couldn't walk, I couldn't do anything. The joints represent what I'm able to do. I have discernment in what I'm able to do. The marrow is the place the blood cells are made. So we get quick discernment in who brings life and who doesn't and what we're supposed to do and not supposed to do. *...and is a discerner...* One that discerns is one that has an intimate relationship with whatever he's doing. Intimate isn't necessarily a lovey thing. Intimate is being aware and understanding what you are working with. You can come to know the Lord very quickly in an intimate way and come to know His voice and He will protect you and keep you safe, but it's all by faith. Intimacy isn't feeling sorry for yourself. When Jesus was ready to go on the cross He said, Lord, isn't there another way? My flesh really doesn't want to go through that. But God didn't answer Him. God turned His face from Him when He was on the cross and everything went dark. He knew what His Son had to do and He didn't show pity but He showed reward for Him after what He was required to do was accomplished. That's the way you must look at God changing you. It's not a pretty thing to see God changing you because He has to reshape everything about you, and in that process of reshaping it's hard, it's tough, but if He would just continue to pity you, you would never change. The Lord told me years ago not to ask Him to show me mercy, because now I have the ability to approach

God in intimacy if I want. So you don't cry out for mercy, you cry out for grace. He will put up with you if you want to change but you have to understand it isn't going to be easy. And that's the way it starts. For years I showed mercy on a lot of people, and guess what happened. They would rip me off every time. But if you show grace they can't rip you off. Grace is teaching you how to acquire. It's the same little saying, if you give a man a fish he will just have one fish, but if you teach a man to fish he will eat for a life time. If you teach someone how to do something then they will have it for the rest of their days and it's the same way with God. Once God teaches you, if you turn from that there is nothing He can do for you. If you taste the good things of God and turn from Him there is nothing else He can do for you, and His grace lifts from you. There is the idea in the church that we can do what we want because we are under grace but there isn't such a thing as that. God demands absolute from every person. When you don't reach that absolute He says, okay, I'm not going to destroy you, but we're going to go back and do it again until you learn. But if you come to the place you don't want to learn any more then there is nothing He can do and grace is lifted off of you. Grace is not something that will be with you every day all of your life unless you're willing to die to your own ideas and thinking and take on the will of God. Why is that necessary? Because the will of man is chaff and will be destroyed. It's not eternal. It's only for a short period of time. But anything that comes from the mouth of God is eternal. Anything God speaks to you and you do according to His will, is eternal and a treasure that will go into heaven, and unless you turn your back on God, you've just put money in the bank, because it's eternal. Only eternal things will withstand the fire that will melt the elements of the earth. Anything other than that is not worth anything. The soul must be saved and then we get a new spirit. We are born again into the spiritual realm of eternity. *...and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.* The word of God is powerful. It cuts coming and going; no matter what you do, wherever you go, you have the ability to discern that which is right and that which is wrong. Every person that stands before God in the last day will have no excuse because it's here. It's available to everyone. We have the ability to discern the intents of the heart.

Hebrews 5:13, *For every one that useth milk is unskillful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe.* How many of you put steaks on the grill and set it before your newborn baby for dinner? They wouldn't have a clue what to do with it. That would be dumb. It's not even thinkable. That's the way it is with a babe in Christ too. They have to have milk. You have to have just the simple understanding that if you want God, He will help you to come to Him. You can then have an eternal Father. Verse 14, *But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.* What are your senses? It seems like every time I take my vehicle to the mechanic he has to change some sensor. A sensor tells you something is wrong. We have five senses in the physical: taste, smell, sight, hearing, and touch. We have a sixth one which is our conscience. God placed within us a conscience that there is a creator. That's why no matter where you go on the earth, whether it's a little group back in the woods that have been isolated all their lives or in a big city, they are worshipping something. It proves there is a conscience. What do your senses do? They give you the description of what's going on. If you smell something, you look to see what is causing that smell. If you hear something you stop to try to figure out what the noise is. With your eyes you can quickly discern a fire or a wind or rain or snow coming down. Your senses tell you what is happening in the earth. If I had a baby that was born blind I would be greatly upset and I would do everything I could to find a way to make those eyes to see. What a horrible thing it would be if I couldn't see. But we are born into the spiritual realm and very few people have the seven senses that God gave us when we were born again to be able to see in the spirit realm. We are supposed to be living in the heavenlies but if we can't see anything in the heavenlies we aren't worth anything. Your senses tell you what is going on in the physical. We saw in verse 14 that their senses are exercised to discern good and evil. What are the senses? We know that we have seven senses when we are born again and we use them to be able to see and know what is going on spiritually in the heavenlies and also in the lives of people. To discern both good and evil doesn't mean that you are going to pick the good. It means that you have a choice to make. That choice is judgments. You have to make a judgment whether you will do something or not, whether you are going to walk in the realm of the spirit or not. God lives in judgment. From this point on, when you are born again and you have the ability to know right and wrong, if

you don't make the right choices you have no excuse for where God is going to send you. You have no argument. We must learn and use our senses. Someone who has done drugs all their life and fried their brain doesn't have a clue what is going on. They're done. What are they going to do? Can they be a discerner of good and evil? They hardly know whether it's day or night. It breaks my heart when I see someone who has fried their brain. How can you comfort someone like that? They have no concept of how to do anything. They cannot discern right from wrong anymore. But we have in us the ability to walk through this life discerning what is right and wrong and if we will choose what's right then that part is eternal. It will last forever as long as we don't turn our back on God.

I Corinthians 2:14, *But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.* The natural man will not hear God. The intellects will not hear God. Those that have no level of intimacy with God will not hear God. What we are fighting today is there are two worlds out there. One world wants God and the other world doesn't want God. They are trying to destroy those who want God so their conscience is free to do whatever they want. You can't talk to someone that doesn't have a relationship with God the way I can talk to you, because they have no idea what you're saying. There is no way they can understand, nor can you prove to them there is a living God. But if by faith they say, God I want to know You and I'm giving my life to You and I let the rest of everything go and I just want You, He will come and bring a rebirthing from the natural to the spiritual realm where you can hear. Verse 15, *But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.* The spiritual man can judge the world but the world can't judge him. Why? Because they have no idea where he is at or what is going on. They aren't capable of doing that. There is a tremendous fight today in the spiritual realms of satan's kingdom and God's kingdom. There are spiritual warfare people that are fighting in the spirit to destroy the works of satan that have bound people so they can come out of their prisons as it says in Isaiah and be set free so their souls can be saved. And then as they grow up in Him can know and see God. When a baby is first born they already have a sense of their mother. When you are born again you have a sense of your Father. Verse 16, *For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.* That's intimacy. If someone would come and make up a story about my wife, I would say, you're full of baloney. You don't even know what you're talking about. I know my wife. She wouldn't even come close to doing that. We can have the mind of Christ if we continue to bring judgment to our own soul and say, soul, you're going to serve the Lord today.

I Corinthians 11:26 *For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come. Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.* What does it mean to eat and drink of the Lord's supper? He said, My flesh is good meat and My blood is good drink. The blood cleanses us from our sins and we live in Jesus, we feed on Him, which is the word. He is the Word. When we feed on the Word and receive the power of forgiveness through Jesus that brings us to a whole new realm of where we are at and what's happening and acknowledging that Jesus and the Father have made provisions for us to have intimacy with Him.

I Corinthians 12:10, *To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will. For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.* One of the things I have tried to do is not make you feel guilty that you don't do what I do. You weren't given that so don't try. In intimacy with God, as He begins to change you, you'll begin to see who God made you to be if you allow Him. You're the clay and He's the potter, and He will shape you the way He wants you to be shaped.

Whatever it is that you're called, you are part of the body of Christ, but each one has a part. If the whole body would be the nose it would be a runny mess. That's the awesomeness of God. Everyone can have a part. Everyone can enter in whether it's big or small. If we become a discerner of right and wrong He can use us.

1 Kings 3:9, Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people? Solomon was young and didn't know much how to rule people and he wanted the senses that we have today; the seven eyes of God. Verse 11, *And God said unto him, Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life; neither hast asked riches for thyself, nor hast asked the life of thine enemies; but hast asked for thyself understanding to discern judgment;* Solomon got the ability to discern and make judgments that were correct according to eternal life, even in the Old Testament. He discerned and used good judgment for years, but it came to a place that when he disobeyed God in all three areas, not to marry a foreign wife, not to have horses and depend on them, but depend on the power and strength of God, and not to have foreign gods, he built temples for his foreign wives and they led him off and he walked into darkness. He began to experiment and because he no longer could bring judgment he became like anybody else.

This is a year that God is going to redeem His people. If you want to be redeemed you have to hear and you have to walk in the judgments, knowing right from wrong and then making the right choices. He knows those that make the right choices and those that don't. The choice is up to you. He won't change. There was a time I thought somehow God was going to let me get into heaven just because I'm me. But that didn't last very long. I knew that was a lie and I had no hope. But I cried out long enough that I want to know Him. He came to me and now I know Him. No matter how hard the journey is, it's not long compared to eternity. We must learn to know Him.

Father I just pray that those that have not heard your voice that you would put in their hearts a desire to know You like they've never seen before. That they might know Your mind and know Your will. That eternity begins to grow in their soul and the wealth that is stored in heaven would be put there. To walk in Your love Lord. To walk in Your grace. Thank You for allowing us to do that. In Your name we pray, amen.