

5/25/25

Sermon – The Hypocrite - The people you meet (wk5)

Scripture – Acts 4:32 - 5:1-7, James 2:19

Main Message – We have all met hypocrites because we have all looked in the mirror.

For good reason, we are grateful to God for being merciful and long suffering. For good reason we need to be redeemed of our sins. Praise be to God that those who build a relationship with God – **change**. They become a new creation. This is important. If you haven't changed, you don't have a true relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ. I have always believed in God. I have not always been saved. The belief I had was the same one demons had. There is one God, but the demons shuddered. Once I became a Believer, some things in my life changed quickly, others more slowly, others I'm still working on. As my corporate career continued to progress and I moved higher up on the ladder, I discovered that maintaining good Christian values was extremely difficult when you become in position of authority. At first I did not always choose well. I made compromises for successful business outcomes. I had become a hypocrite with respect to Christian values. But, I moved up the corporate ladder. The world would see me as successful, but I was not. But God started a good work in me, so as I continued maturing in Christ, the less I was willing to compromise. All this time, God was patient with me. He knew me when I didn't know myself.

Let me read to you from the book of Acts 4:32-5:11

In this story, whose hearts have been changed, and whose has not? This is a powerful lesson and not just because they died. They just wanted to be a part of the new fun group, but didn't really believe so they didn't really commit to God. Others, like Barnabus set an example of fully invested. Why did they die on the spot? Well, to answer that, I will use the last few weeks as a reminder.

Pharaoh scoffed and scoffed and all the first born died in the Land of Egypt.

The foolish husband of Abigail, Nabal – well he died.

The Greedy guy, Achan, and his entire family died.

The Hypocrites Ananias and Saphira died.

Galatians 6:7 says this, "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a person sows, this he will also reap."

In all of these messages we can see that those who work against the plans and direction of God are at risk of judgment. Indeed, aren't we all. It is only by the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ that we have any hope. Let us be eternally grateful for the patience our Father has towards us. May his mercy continue towards us.

So, what do we do when we meet a hypocrite. Look in the mirror and tell me, because we all are in some way. But with the God's Kingdom, let us be fully invested in his truth. Amen