CREEKSIDE’S TEACHING NOTES for Sunday, August 23, 2015



LORD, HELP ME CHANGE!

John 15:1-11

I am the true vine

and my father is the gardener

. . . you are the branches.

John 15:1 & 5

TWO KEY STEPS TO HEALTHY LIFE CHANGE:

1. REPENT –

It all starts here. Even after you become a Jesus’ follower you still need to live a life of repentance. It is the key to experiencing true life-change.

“As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten.

Therefore be zealous and repent.”

Revelation 3:19

“Repent!”

Jeremiah, Isaiah, Hosea etc

“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!’

John The Baptist Matthew 3:2

“Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.”

Peter Acts 3:19

REPENT *(Greek “metaneo”)* means to rethink or to change your mind. All change begins with a change of mind. It is a change in the way I think about something

. . . yet now I am happy, not because you were made sorry, but because your sorrow led you to repentance. For you became sorrowful as God intended and so were not harmed in any way by us. Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.

2 Corinthians 7:9-10

True repentance begins with sorrow.

True repentance focuses on what has to change.

FOUR SIGNS OF GENUINE REPENTANCE:

1. Absence of excuses

2. Genuine sorrow

3. Willingness to confess

4. Desire for restitution

2. REMAIN:

Pruning Always Hurts

My suffering was good for me,  
    for it taught me to pay attention to your decrees.

Psalm 119:71 NLT

Sometimes the pain of pruning comes because of our sins.

Sometimes the pain of pruning comes because while we are bearing fruit God wants us to bear even more fruit.

TRUE BELIEVERS will live a life of continual pruning.

Much of what is noble in us

has been accomplished by God’s pruning in our lives.

God’s hand is never closer than when he prunes his vine.

THE FRUIT OF ABIDING

1. A deep inner peace - John 14:27

2. Desires like God’s – John 15:7

3. God is glorified – John 15:8

4. Love is stimulated – John 15:9-10

5. Joy will overflow – John 15:11

We are not called to bear fruit.

We are called to remain or abide in the vine.

It is God’s job to do what needs to be done to produce the fruit in our lives.