SOLID ROCK MAN

Bold Men Know Their Purpose - Part One

Where and From What Do We Derive Our Purpose? It Is All Rooted in Love and Relationship.

- > Seeking First the Kingdom
 - Matthew 6:33 "But seek first the Kingdom and His righteousness and all these things will be added to you."
- What is the Kingdom?
 - o God and His People. The saved and the not yet saved.
 - Matthew 22:36-40 "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law? And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend on all the Law and the Prophets."
 - o On these two commandments everything that is written in God's word rests upon
 - If we aren't walking in love first towards God and then second toward people, then we can't do anything biblically. We cannot follow the Word He has given us.
- Note: This is our true purpose. It is all about our heart. Our heart towards God and our heart towards others. The cool thing is if our heart is fully for God then we will have our hearts set on His Kingdom. His Kingdom is His people! The saved as well as the not yet saved.

So How Do We Love God First?

- > We Must First Learn to Abide with God. To have a relationship, continually, moment by moment
 - John 15:5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."
 - This is Rooted in Relationship and Love. But, We Must Not Deceive Ourselves Because Love is Rooted in ACTION
- Notice How These Are Actions Listed Below, on Both Sides

Love embraces	Love resists
Patience (is patient)	Envy (isn't envious)
Kindness (is kind)	Boasting (isn't boastful)
Truth (rejoices with the truth)	Arrogance (isn't arrogant)
Resilience (bears all things)	Rudeness (isn't rude)
Faith (believes all things)	Selfishness (doesn't insist on its own way)
Hope (hopes all things)	Anger (isn't irritable)
Endurance (endures all things)	Resentment (isn't resentful)
Perseverance (never fails)	Wrongdoing (doesn't rejoice in wrongdoing)

How Does This Look Practically? Submission.

- > Submission has Two Parts
 - Repentance
 - Following

> Repentance

- Repentance = Turning our heart towards God and away from the world. Confessing our sin to Him with a commitment to never do that sin again. You must release control and give way for Him to change you!
 - 2 Timothy 3:5 "But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. 2 People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents,

ungrateful, unholy, 3 without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, 4 treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God— 5 having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with such people. They are the kind who worm their way into homes and gain control over gullible women, who are loaded down with sins and are swayed by all kinds of evil desires, 7 always learning but never able to come to a knowledge of the truth."

 If we are unrepentant, how can we allow God's Spirit to change us and work through us? Be careful to not have a form of godliness but deny the Holy Spirit's power! (Cultural Christianity)

> Following

- So, we must stay rooted in God's Word! If not, then how do we know how to follow?
 - James 1:23-25 "Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror 24 and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. 25 But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do."
 - Matthew 7:24 "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock."

Look Ahead to next week: Purpose in Loving People (the second half to our purpose)