Evangelist Carolyn Luke

December 2015

The Body of Christ

1st Corinthians 6:17-V20
But he that is joined unto the
Lord is one Spirit. For ye are
bought with a price: therefore
glorify God in your body, and in
your spirit, which are God's.

The Corinthian church served the goddess Aphrodite. In the temple sex was a part of their worship ritual. God doesn't forbid sex without marriage to be difficult, but He knows its power to destroy us physically and spiritually.

No one should underestimate the power of sexual sin. It has devastated countless of lives, destroyed families, communities and nations. Sex should be between a husband and wife, this was one of the pleasures God gave for marriage and for the reproduction of mankind. When performed any other way, it's against the principals of God.

Sexual sin (fornication) is a temptation we can't escape in movies and on television. Sex outside marriage is treated as a normal desirable part of life, while marriage is often shown as confining and joyless. Those who control their sexual desires by abstinence may be looked down upon others if suspected to be pure.

God has never given us a principal to keep and not give us the power to perform it (Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away 2nd Timothy 3:5). A form of godliness is religion without power or spiritual life. The form is an appearance of godliness including

going to church, knowing Christian doctrine, using Christian clichés and following a community's Christian tradition. This practice can make a person look good, but if the inner attitudes of belief, love, and worship is lacking, the outer appearance is meaningless.

Sexual gratification to oneself is also against the principals of God. God created Eve for Adam. Adam wasn't created to gratify himself, God made Eve to do that for him and the principals still goes for today for those who are professing to be Christians. God's principals will never change.

God created man in the image of Him, meaning, man was created in holiness. There was no sin on earth until Adam and Eve disobeyed by eating of the forbidden fruit. The only way man could be reconciled back to God was by Jesus and that was to accept the salvation Jesus was giving them through His death, burial and resurrection.

Jesus didn't die so that we could continue in our sins. He died to reconcile us to the Father and give us the power to overcome the temptation of not only sexual sins, but anything that is against the principals of God.

Many are professing to be Christians, but their lifestyle reveals something different. Many think because they don't commit sexual sins, they're okay. However, they gossip, look down on other fellow Christians, fault find, criticize, dominate, are controlling, and all of this is also against the principals of God.

The Bible was created for those who believe and want to submit themselves to the instructions of God. If we don't know His word, we can't follow the instructions. The Bible is our instruction to live by the word of God, we can't add to it and we can't take from it. There is no in between, it's His way or no way.

The Fruit of the Spirit should be in manifestation in every professing Christians, they may not have all of them in operation, but some of them should be in manifestation.

We can't live according to the secular world and live according to God's word. We have to chose who we will serve, and who we chose to serve will be the one we will become servant to (Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servant ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or obedience unto righteousness? (Romans 6:16)

As Christians, we have become in unity with God through His Son. Jesus died to give us salvation along with sanctification. Sanctification isn't a denomination, it's a life style Christians should live. Cursing and bringing division between others isn't living as being the part of the body of Christ. Jesus never brought division unless it was towards the false teaching those who were professing to be Christians was teaching. God and His Son is love and if we have them dwelling in us, we will love as they love. As children of God, we will follow the instruction

The Body of Christ

God has given us through His word. God has instructed us not to allow sin to dominate over us, so that means He has given us the be filled with the Holy Spirit. power to overcome sin (Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. (Romans 6:12)

Son, but we must do more than believe, because the devils believe in God and the Son, but they don't serve the Father or the Son (Thou believest that there is one God: thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.

(James 2:19). Being able to memorize and quote scripture is good, but can we live by the scriptures we're quoting?

The body of Christ should be holy in word, deed and thought. Holiness only means one has dedicated themselves to the Lord and is willing to submit to live by the Bible's instructions.

If we're professing to be Christians, we should love one another and especially to those who no one else loves. God is love and if we're His sons and daughters we should love like our Father. God has unconditional love for His people. God doesn't love you today and hate you tomorrow. God doesn't love us because of nationality, gender, educational or finan- Father, and we should have the cial status.

God loves everyone no matter what sins they have committed. God loves us, but He doesn't love the sin we commit. We can't continue in sin and think we have a relationship with God, because we don't. God hates sin! Sin cannot and will not enter into heaven.

The Bible is our instructions to live by. In order to live according to the instructions. We must apply

the instructions to our life daily. This is why everyone professing to be Christians should It's the Holy Spirit that enables us to live according to the word of God when we read the instructions and have a desire to live by the instruction.

It's good to believe in God and His The Holy Spirit's indwelling should motivate the believer to be careful not to harm his body nor indulge his body in sin. The Holy Spirit produces fruit of the Spirit in the believer's life: love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance. The Holy Spirit also produces the gifts of the Spirit being manifested: word of wisdom, word of knowledge, faith, gifts of healing, miracles, prophecy, discerning of spirits; divers kinds of tongues and interpretation of tongues.

> When the Holy Spirit is indwelling our bodies, it changes our character and behavior. When its indwelling our bodies, we no longer want our will, but we desire God's will to be done in us and through us. When we begin to have the mind of Christ, this is when we have became the body of Christ.

Jesus came to do the will of the same mind set. Jesus was both man and Divine, but before Jesus could accomplish His task, He was filled with the Holy Spirit. It's the Holy Spirit that gives us a heart and mind to submit ourselves to the instructions of the Bible. Through Him only can we accomplish this task.

The baptism of the Holy Spirit is not given at our conversion, if that was that case, why did Jesus receive the Holy Spirit? Why did Jesus tell His disciples to go to Jerusalem and wait for the Holy Spirit? They were already converted to Christians, but they needed the filling of the Holy Spirit, and just as they did, so do we!

We can't be strong Christian without being filled with the Holy Spirit. It's the Holy Spirit that assists us to communicate with God through the Spirit, it is He that gives us a desire to please the Father, it is He that gives us a hunger and thirst for righteousness.

There are many denominations, but there is only one Lord, one faith, one baptism. His instructions are for every denomination for we are the body of Christ. We should love one another, encourage one another, work together in unity building the kingdom of God.

One denomination is no greater than the other one. God and Jesus is not divided, the Bible doesn't bring division unless one misinterpret the doctrine. Unity brings the blessings of God to the body of Christ. If we fought division the way we fight against one another. the kingdom of God would advance.

As many churches that's functioning in our communities, cities and states, if the congregants were living by Biblical principals the world wouldn't be in the chaotic state it's in. If the people of God would come together in unity and holiness, people wouldn't be confused about Christianity because the way some Christians live. There is no way we can have a relationship with God, and still practice sin and have no remorse to sin. The Holy Spirit convicts us of sin. He doesn't condone it. If we continue to practice sin, the Holy Spirit will no longer convict us of our sinful nature that's against the plans God has for our life.

The Body of Christ

Our body belongs to God, we just have it as a loner until we accomplish our tasks here on earth, and in the meantime, we should worship and submit ourselves to Him and His word.

We're an example of what a Christian should be, and when we live a life of hypocrisy it confuses the unbeliever in what true Christianity is about. We shouldn't be a stumbling block to the unbeliever or to each other.

The gospel must reach a dying world, and to those who are professing to be Christians, but their lifestyle doesn't come in line with the word of God. God called us into holiness (But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life—Romans 6:22).

There should be a difference between the believer and the unbeliever. There should be a difference between godliness and ungodliness.

The penalty for sin is death, both spiritual and physical. There is no cause for us to sin, when God has given us the power to overcome sin. We should be able to forgive others when they have hurt or wronged us when God has given us the power to forgive. If the Spirit of the Lord is dwelling in our human-spirit, then we will have love within us and it will be manifested on the outside from the inside.

If we came together in every denomination in the beauty of holiness and unity, sin wouldn't be as prevalent as it is in the world and in the life of people. The Bible states that one can chase a thousand and two can chase ten thousands. If we came together as the body of Christ, we could destroy ungodly actions and spirits and free the captive, but we can't set the people free if we're captive by sin. Jesus came to set the captive free, and He has given us His anointing to set the captive free.

Just as God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit function in different roles, but they are in unity as one, they operate together and that's how the body of Christ should operate. People should view us as Christians, not denominations: denominations isn't in the Bible. There are different nationalities in the Bible, and they were called by their nationality, such as the Corinthians, Galatians, etc., but they lived in holiness according to the word of God, and when they didn't, Apostle Paul corrected them of their error.

When we see one of our sisters or brother in a fault, we should go to them in the spirit of meekness, correcting them with love and kindness. We're to build each other up and not to destroy one another. We are the body of Christ, and we have to answer to God for how we have treated each other and how we have lived as the body of Christ.

Jesus is coming back for His church, judgement will start at the church (For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God; and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God)? -1st Peter 4:17

Visit Word of Life on the web at:

www.wordoflifeministries.org

Where there is much more to enjoy!

www.facebook.com/WordofLifeMinisries http://www.twitter.com/wordoflifeCHI Woman2Woman.gobal

For prayer, free subscription, speaking engagement submit your request to: cluke@wordoflifeministries.org

Word of Life Ministries C/o Evangelist Carolyn Luke P.O. Box 148694 Chicago, Illinois 60614

© 2015

God bless you, walk in victory!

Next Issue: Repentance and Prayer Brings Healing.