

Unequally Yoked

"Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers; for what fellowship has righteousness with unrighteousness? And what fellowship does light have to do with darkness?" (2 Corinthians 6:14).

When I was growing up, I had a friend that would constantly get me into trouble! No matter where we were, in school, when I stayed at her house or when she stayed at mine!! It didn't matter where we were she could always find trouble for us!! Here's the thing though, she was so much fun that it was almost worth the punishments I received!!

Then one year my eighth-grade teacher said something to me that I will never forget! As my friend was shooting spitballs across the room and wanting me to do the same, my teacher had me gather my things and move to the front of the class away from my friend. She looked at me and said "Miss Karen, those who lie down with dogs rise up with fleas!" Now with the brain of an eighth grader I tried to figure out just what she meant. At first it made no sense, and we all got a good laugh out of it, especially my friend!! But as the weeks went by, those words kept coming back to my mind and each time they did I felt I understood them more. I realized that this teacher cared enough for me to warn me what would happen to me if I continued to let this so-called friend influence me!! She could see more in me than I could see in myself, and, in her way, she was trying to protect me from losing sight of who I was and what I could become!!

How about you?? Have you ever had a friend like that?? So much fun that you never gave it a thought of the direction your life may be headed because of that friend?? What has their influence been over you??

The Lord tells us to not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers!! What does that mean to you?? We have to remember that our Father in heaven wants us to be free of all the things that keep us from following Him!! He wants us to be healthy

and whole!! He created us perfectly and it grieves Him when we get on the wrong track and allow other people to influence us!! He loves us with such an intense love that He is jealous for us and wants a strong relationship with us!

He covers us with His righteousness and calls us out from the unrighteous!! He wants us to be as holy as He is holy because, believe it or not, our God knows what is best for us!! He calls us to be light in the darkness. That is why he asks the question, "what fellowship does light have to do with darkness??" How can we be light?? How can we follow Christ and still have our toe in the darkness??

I don't believe it is possible. We become doubleminded and then we don't actually know who we serve! We are in the dark one moment and in the light the next. It can't work that way. We must make a choice!! Scripture says, ". . . today I have set before you life and death . . . choose life" (Deuteronomy 30:19). Our Lord's concern for us is that we choose life!! He cares for us so much that He does not want us to perish. He wants us to spend eternity in Heaven in His kingdom with Him!! He knows what he has put in us and He has a purpose and a plan for us!! Ultimately, it is up to us what we choose to do with the life that our Creator has given us!!

Scripture says, "And if it seems evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell; BUT AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSE, WE WILL SERVE THE LORD" (Joshua 24:15).

How about you?? Whom will you serve?? Will you fellowship with darkness and forget you are called to be LIGHT?? We are to go out into the world and make disciples!! How can we make disciples, how can we tell others about the LIGHT OF THE WORLD, if we are still fellowshiping with darkness?? Dear ones, our Lord is calling us to Himself. He is beckoning us to rise up and be the men and women He has called and created us to be!! Can you hear Him?? Are you listening??

Scripture tells us "You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light" (1 Peter 2:9).

Walk in the light, church, and spread that light into all the world!!
And choose this day whom you will serve!!