Long Night's Journey Into Day: 5 Biblical Keys to Putting the Last 15 Months Behind Us

## Discuss

The fourth key to putting the last 15 months behind us: Replace Your Feeds.

What are your sources for get for getting information on local / global news, current events, and entertainment. Are these sources trustworthy?

The Bible makes it clear that scripture is the number one source of information for Christ followers. Many times we need to filter information of our day through the lens of Scripture. We can trust scripture because God used people to write scripture, and they wrote exactly what He wanted.

"*All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*" (2 Timothy 3:16-17 NIV)

- Do you typically use scripture as your main source of truth?
- Does Scripture answer todays current issues? If so how?
- Does being in constant communication with God allow us to see truth in scripture more clearly? If so, why?

Paul was shocked by the Galatians for three main reasons:

- 1. How easily they turned to a false narrative
- 2. Christ followers do not "stand over" scripture; scripture "stands over" the Christ follower (things are not true just because we like them)
- 3. Craziness brakes out when a false narrative replaces Biblical truth

"I am shocked that you are turning away so soon from God, who called you to himself through the loving mercy of Christ. You are following a different way that pretends to be the Good News but is not the Good News at all. You are being fooled by those who deliberately twist the truth concerning Christ."

(Galatians 1:6-7 NLT)

- Do you believe that there are people today that deliberately twist God's Word? How can we avoid falling into their trap?
- As Christ followers, we are called to examine ourselves first before we examine others (<u>Matthew 7:3-5</u>). How can it be harmful to us if we examine others before looking at ourselves?

Whatever we put in our system is going to come out. Paul gives us some examples of what our inputs should be, things that are:



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"No More Hoarding"

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- 1. True Is it true Biblically
- 2. Nobel Worthy of respect
- 3. Right Actions that are good (taking responsibility)
- 4. Pure Nothing morally depraved
- 5. Lovely Virtuous
- 6. Admirable Something to aspire to

"Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you." (Philippians 4:8-9)

- Think through the attributes listed above. Are there any that you admire most? Why?
- Do the "inputs" in your life live up to the qualities that the author calls us to think about? Are there any you need to eliminate?
- Are there people in your life that exhibit most of these qualities? Who are they and do you enjoy being around them?

## **Next Steps**

-Honestly reflect on the past 15 months of your life. What "inputs" of yours make you more like Christ? What "inputs" make you want to be more giving, loving and servant hearted? Do you need other "inputs"?

-Set aside some time every day to spend time in scripture. Make it one of your main "inputs" and judge your other sources of information by looking at them through the lens of scripture.

June 30: Online Book Club: Improve Your Serve June 30: Exploring Homeschooling Online July 1st: Celebrate Recovery Online

**Continued Reading** 

Read:

-Proverbs 28:26 -2 Corinthians 10:5 -Colossians 3:2-5 -Romans 12:1-2



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## Prayer

God, I know You want what is best for me. Thank you for Your Word, and help me to determine what I should put into my mind and what I should keep out. Guard over my thoughts, and help me to focus on those things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely, and admirable. Amen

Did you pray this prayer? Or do you have questions about this? Let us know!



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