



Lesson 81 An Honorable Vessel

March 21, 2012

03/21/12 MEETING: PRESENT – I AM, CINDY

CT – Container, vessel, be an honorable vessel. Be a vessel of purpose. Serve the Lord with your whole heart. Don't divide your attention. Keep Me at the center of your purpose - your heart. Keep Me at the center of your heart. Let Me motivate your actions. When honoring Me through your service to others have My love at the center of your heart, your actions. This is what it means to let them see Me in you.

Others try to control and conquer by force. That is their motivation. My motivation is love. I AM love, let others feel My love, My warmth, My blessings. Then you truly are My ambassador.

Be an Honorable Vessel

This week the Lord admonished us to be "an honorable vessel". Honorable is defined as in accordance with or characterized by principles of honor (honesty, fairness, integrity in one's beliefs and actions; high respect, fame or glory); of high rank, dignity or distinction; noble; illustrious or distinguished; worthy of honor and high respect, bringing honor or credit. The first part of this definition that stands out to me is "integrity in one's belief". I guess that is saying, adherence to one's belief or living one's belief.

Honesty & Fairness: (upright, fair, sincere, frank, genuine)

Honesty and Fairness are both elements of being an honorable vessel. How could we ever think we could be honorable if we are not honest and fair. The word states:

Exodus 20:15,16 *You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.*

Leviticus 19:35-36 *You shall do no injustice in judgment, in measurement of length, weight, or volume. You shall have honest scales, honest weights, an honest ephah, and an honest hin.*

When Jesus told the parable of the sower, He explained that some seeds fell by the wayside, some fell on rock and some fell on thorns but some of the seeds fell on good ground and sprang up yielding a crop a hundredfold. He went on to explain in:

Luke 8:15 *"But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience."* These "seeds"

Are honestly following after the Lord with a noble heart. They are sincere in their beliefs with a genuine desire to be pleasing to Him.

Integrity: (adherence to principles)

Integrity or sticking to your principles appears to be more difficult in these times. We receive so much pressure to become "politically correct". But today's "politically correct" seems to

pretty much mean to become accepting of a variety of formerly unacceptable behaviors. The world tries to convince us that the bible and the commandments therein are no longer relevant; that they are judgmental. However, we understand this is an untruth. We understand we are to separate ourselves from the worlds ideals and adhere to the principles set forth by our Lord.

2 Timothy 2:19b-21 *“Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity.” But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor. Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel of honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.*

The bible tells us that Job was a vessel of honor. It tells us that he was blameless and upright a man who shunned evil. In other words he was a man of integrity that adhered to the principles he believed in.

Job 1:1 *There was a man in the land of UZ, who name was Job; and that man was blameless and upright, and one who feared God and shunned evil.*

We should strive to be like Job, blameless and upright, shunning evil; even Job himself declared that he would remain faithful and not lose his integrity in spite of all that befell him.

Job 27:2-6 *“As God lives, who has taken away my justice, and the Almighty, who has made my soul bitter, as long as my breath is in me, and the breath of God in my nostrils, my lips will not speak wickedness, nor my tongue utter deceit. Far be it from me that I should say you are right; till I die I will not put away my integrity from me. My righteousness I hold fast, and will not let it go; my heart shall not reproach me as long as I live.*

Job understood the importance of holding fast to what is in your heart, holding fast to principles. The Lord was at the center of Job’s heart. He may not have understood why all these things were happening to him (losing children, wealth and property etc) but he held fast to what was in his heart. And what was in his heart was to be pleasing to the Lord. Job followed after the Lord not only for himself but for his children as well.

Job 1:5 *So it was, when the days of feasting had run their course, that Job would send and sanctify them, and he would rise early in the morning and offer according to the number of them all. For Job said, “It may be that my sons have sinned and cursed God in their hearts.” Thus Job did regularly.*

Job was blameless and upright. He was a man of integrity. Likewise, we are being encouraged to keep the Lord at the center of our heart. **Keep Me at the center of your heart,** maintaining our integrity as well.

Proverbs 10:9 *He who walks with integrity walks securely, but he who perverts his ways will become known.*

Proverbs 11:3 *The integrity of the upright will guide them but the perversity of the unfaithful will destroy them.*

Titus 2:7 *in all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility.*

Noble: (distinguished, exalted mental or moral character or excellence)

Another element of being an honorable vessel is that of being noble. A person is noble when they are admirable. They have high standards. They are distinguished (**visible excellence**). The Lord wants us to be distinguished as well (have visible excellence). He does not want us to be the type of people who “follow the crowd”.

1 Thessalonians 2:11-12 *as you know how we exhorted, and comforted, and charged every one of you, as a father does his own children, that you would walk worthy of God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.*

Philippians 4:8 *Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.*

This week the Lord said, **Container, vessel, be an honorable vessel. Be a vessel of purpose. Serve the Lord with your whole heart.** Therefore, we gather that the Lord wants us to have a character that stands out. We should be honest and fair, sincere, maintaining our integrity with a visibly excellent quality to ourselves. In other words we should be easily identifiable as a person of Christ, an honorable vessel, who serves the Lord with our whole heart.

The Center of Your Heart

He also said that He wants us to: **Keep Me at the center of your purpose - your heart. Keep Me at the center of your heart. Let Me motivate your actions.** We will keep Him at the center by keeping our focus on Him and His commandments to us. This reminds me of our previous statement of not following the crowd because we can't keep Him as our focus if our attention is being diverted to another. The bible says this:

1 John 2:3-6 *Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, “I know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar and the truth is not in him. But whoever keeps His words, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know we are in Him. He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.*

1 John 2:15,28 *Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ...And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.*

The heart is thought to be the seat of our emotions, the seat of our love. It then makes perfect sense that the Lord tells us to keep Him at the center of our heart or in other words at the center of our love.

My Love

When honoring Me through your service to others have My love at the center of your heart, your actions. This is what it means to let them see Me in you. As humans we express our love to others in various ways. We speak of our love but we also give demonstrations of our love. In the words above the Lord is explaining to us that the love that we have at the center of our heart, the love we hold for Him, should be given to others in service to Him. He will then be seen through us because we have been identified as His. Pretty awesome!

Ephesians 5:1-2 *Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.*

Hebrews 13:1 *Let brotherly love continue.*

1 Peter 1:22b .. *love one another fervently with a pure heart.*

1 Peter 3:8-9 *Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous; not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessings, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing.*

In Lesson 80 we learned that Jesus taught us that the greatest commandment is this:

Matthew 22:37-40

"You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

And He taught us in these same verses that loving our neighbor is important as well. His message is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow. We are to keep His love at the center of our hearts to share with others. They should feel His love, His warmth, His blessings through you.

Others try to control and conquer by force. That is their motivation. My motivation is love. I AM love, let others feel My love, My warmth, My blessings. Then you truly are My ambassador.

Additional Words

Here are some additional words received this week that relate to these topics. We have learned from the THH website that we are to compare spiritual to spiritual when studying the Lords words. <http://www.takehisheart.com/holyspiritspiritualthings.htm>

The word of God says the Holy Spirit reveals the **deep things** of God to us.

1 Corinthians 2:10

But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

When God gives His Word to us, it includes His thoughts. We can hear God's voice, read God's word and because of the thought patterns in our carnal minds, we do not arrive at the meaning of what God is actually saying. If we don't have the input of the "things of the Spirit," **and** understand how the Holy Spirit teaches "comparing Spiritual with spiritual," we are left with interpretation accomplished only by the wisdom of men. Yes, the Bible says that we are to study and rightly divide the word of God.

2 Timothy 2:15

Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

It also says we are to add things together correctly.

Isaiah 28:10

For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little:

Therefore let us review words received this week to get a more complete picture of what the Lord is revealing to us.

03/14/12

MVA - Good tempered full of Love. Look to others, see needs. Fulfill. I have made a Godly man. Reflecting your God Jesus. Shadow. Stay pure.

3/15/12

DP - Be as I AM loving, kind, slow to wrath, quick to forgive. Help guide those who need help. Be a light shining brightly for all to see. Take these teachings and bring them together. Follow after My ways and it will be well with you.

MVA - Stay singly focused on your God Jesus. I AM your direction look to me Jesus in all. Acts of kindness done in My name pleasing in My sight. We are all family. When one has a need help fill that need. I have connected for purpose. Family ties one in Me Jesus. Love, show My Love. Stay pure.

BN - You need to be a light before others.

03/16/12

DP - Love others, make them feel My love through you.

MVA - Comforting one another involves honesty and humbleness. Love and compassion shown to others is a reflection of your God Jesus. Peacemaker.

03/17/12

MVA – Be a true image of your God Jesus, lights of brightness shining across the nations. My Word and ways proclaimed. Destinies fulfilled. Lost saved. Multitudes brought out of darkness. Be ready My Beloved the time is now. Purified vessels full of My power. Purity required, refinement, purity in acts, purity in motive, purity in thought. Remain pure for this is My way. The road less traveled.

BN - Go out and speak My truth to the world. Refinement is ongoing, become more pure each day until you are a vessel pleasing to me. Become more pure each day until you are a vessel pleasing to me.

SN - Hearts together as one, Honor each other.

03/18/12

MVA - I AM building strength purity a cleansed people. Purity and grace given, receive. Walk with your God Jesus.

BN - Don't be too hung up on end time events but rather about what you must do to be pleasing to me.

SN - Be available to all whom I send.

03/19/12

DP - I have loved from the start, keep on down the path.

MVA - Help others in their time of need. You have been placed in a position to help. I bring together those in need of each other. Lifting each other up in time of need. Stay pure.

SN - Direct people through the path, know the path.

03/20/12

DP – Feed My Sheep. My love surrounds you, Share My love with the world.

MVA – Purity of thought. Each day strive to do better. Take every thought into captivity. Control what you allow to think on. Meditate on Your God Jesus. Purity clean joyful thoughts. Thought

of the world and worlds ways reject. Train your mind. Exercise your mind. Bring all thoughts under control. Do not let your mind wander keep it on My straight path. Thoughts matter. Be prepared.

BN - You must be a light for the rest of the world leading by example. Be humble before your Lord. Keep your heart light and pure. Focus, focus is key.

Summation

I think we can tell from these words that the Lord wants us to continue purifying ourselves, becoming more refined. We are to keep the Lord as our focus removing the world's influence. And we are to let our light shine before men. This light we are shining is the love of the Lord. It is a blessing to others that they are to feel through us. Once this is achieved then we are truly His ambassadors.

03/21/12

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Romans 12:9-17 *Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion. Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men.*

May the Lord bless and Keep You,
Cindy

<http://www.takehisheart.com>