



Lesson 32 Don't Open the Wrong Doors

The Lord had Bob and I read the booklet The Death of a Pet this week. Therefore, this will be the source of our study.

The Death of a Pet is about truth and man's will to hold onto untruth. It is also a booklet about self-examination and refinement of self. The Lord is cleaning out stuff that doesn't belong in our lives so He can make us into his jewels. The Lord uses the symbolism of pets to teach us about things we choose to keep in our lives that are not necessary. A pet is something we choose to keep because we want it. A pet is not necessary for our survival. We choose to keep it, to take care of it, and cherish it because we want to; not because we have to. Likewise, we can choose to keep teachings, beliefs, ideas, and secrets not because we need to but because we want to. When a pet dies we are saddened because we were attached to our pet. We loved it. We wanted it. Similarly, when we have to get rid of the untruths which we like, want and even love; we will suffer similar feelings of despair.

From The Take His Heart website: <http://www.takehisheart.com/pdf/deathpet.pdf>

The first time the Lord showed me a person's doctrinal pet He revealed that it was a doctrine (belief) the person (owner or holder) **didn't want to give up**. Here I must emphasize that the word "doctrine" could be translated "teaching," but in this case the doctrine (set of thoughts on a certain subject) had never been taught to this person. It was something this Christian had grown up with or grown into because it was happening, being practiced, as "the way you do it" for years. It was something they **wanted to believe**, something they **wanted to hang onto**. Thus we see a correlation between **wanting** to keep something that is not true, and **wanting** to keep a pet.

In addition to following incorrect doctrine, this can also be applied to our personal lives in a couple of different ways.

The first example that comes to mind would be hanging onto a "secret sin" which you have not confessed to even your closest believing friend. Why are you holding on to this? How is this "secret sin" affecting you? Does it always come into your mind making you feel unworthy of Christ? Is it a sin you believe is too big for even the cross? How can you be refined into the jewel Christ intends you to be if you are still holding onto this secret? Now I'm not trying to get you to start confessing all your sins right here, right now. I'm going to try to help you see how holding onto this pet is unhealthy.

Second example, we all have things we hold onto in our personal lives that hold us back. Things we have grown up into. Things about ourselves we believe and hold onto just because someone else has pounded this vision into our heads. When I was a young girl kids were always teasing me because I was so thin (turn sideways and stick out your tongue – you look like a zipper. They'd call me mosquito legs and when all the young girls were starting to wear their first bras I was told just get a couple of bandaids. etc.) If I am holding onto this visual image of myself I will never be the person God wants me to be. If

you are holding on to a poor self-image of yourself you likewise will not be the person God wants you to be.

The things we grow up into (ideas and/or traditions) become so entrenched in us that we don't want to give them up. We become accustomed to them. They feel comfortable. We actually want to hang onto them whether we realize it or not. This desire can be controlling your subconscious. And again, whether we are following after our own will or following after the traditions of man **if it is not the Lord's will then it is not correct**. Let me assure you, it is not the Lord's will for us to have poor self-image. It is not the Lord's will for us to be misled by the traditions of men. It is not the Lord's will for us to hold onto the past never letting it go.

Philippians 3:13

Brethren, I do not count myself to have, apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead.

The Lord is letting us know that it's time to get rid of our pets. It is time for the cleanup of the Bride of Christ. God is starting with the leaders, those coming on the scene. **All the hidden lies in their personal lives must be exposed to them and dealt with. All the false doctrines in the church are to be exposed and dealt with.** To understand what has been happening concerning the leadership in the church in the past, we must understand that all the gifts of God are **without repentance**, meaning they were given and function whether or not a person is walking in or preaching truth. The gifts of the spirit function whether a person's life is clean and right in biblical terms or not. I used to believe that if a gift was functioning God was verifying or confirming what was being preached. This is not true! God confirms a truth by **demonstration of that truth!**

Because of the fact that our personal lives always affect our witness and our jobs or positions in the church the Lord is in the cleaning business in our personal lives. This must be done so the enemy cannot enter into what God is doing and stop the ministry of Jesus Christ to the world in these Last Days. **It's all based upon and is pointed in the direction of the ministry of Jesus Christ.** The Spotless Bride will flow with Him uninterrupted by all our hang-ups.

Remember the Lord has been talking to us a lot lately about not opening the doors to the enemy and about being your best self.

On 09/26/2010 You are in a battle and all of your actions are important. There is no day or time when sinful acts are okay. It is as if you are a knight (always noble, a servant and a warrior) except you are battling in the spirit realm. Be aware of your actions and the effect they have (good versus evil). You are always "up to bat".

On 10/10/ 2010 the Lord said **Laws turn order out of chaos. Obeying them open doors to a closer life with me. Disobeying them open doors to the enemy who goes about to and fro searching for the ones who have opened doors for him.**

10/24/2010 **Be your best. Don't open the wrong doors.**

11/07/2010 Focus on Me. I AM the way. I AM the light. You will be made into My image through refinement. Bootcamp. There is no other way. You must change your ways, your pattern of doing things to be made complete in me.

He has been talking to us about refinement. He wants to make us into his jewels but in order for this to occur we have to allow Him to clean us up. He wants to help us get rid of the traditions of men. He wants us to see ourselves as He sees us.

Persons who are ministering must walk in the truth of their own life, no matter what that is, to be a good witness for the Lord. We become hypocrites in the eyes of those we are trying to minister to when we don't walk in (admit) what and where we really are in our personal lives. An example of this is if we have sinned and won't admit the sin. Not admitting a sin can be worse than the sin because that is haughtiness. It's not only the sin but also the lack of admitting the truth that affects our ministry. [We are to confess our shortcomings to one another, not to the world, except for the purpose of ministering to the world.] If we have something in us that hinders the admission of our sin (the truth) then the Lord has to remove that hindrance. The reason is, **the pure truth sets you free no matter what that truth is, although it may not seem that way at the time**. If we have hidden things in our lives then we are under and in a way controlled by whatever we are hiding in our minds. It concerns our minds. If we are hiding things in our minds then we are not really free to say what is on our minds. The Enemy can use the hidden things of our lives against the ministry of the Lord flowing through us and around us. He will do this in your mind and in the minds of the people your life is affecting. It's as simple as, "I cannot talk about this subject freely because I cannot lie, and they would find out my weaknesses." Simple, isn't it? Everything the Lord does with us concerning our character points toward cleaning us up and bringing us to walk in His idea of truth, which is pure truth, in every area of our lives.

The title of the booklet the Lord had us read is The Death of a Pet. The Lord chose this title because there are things in our lives we need to dispose of. We need to let them die.

The Lord warns us in 2 Timothy 4:1-5

I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

Do not be a person who ignores the truth. Do not be a person who turns aside from sound doctrine. Do not be a person who turns to fables or a person who holds onto their pets.

Pets can come in many styles, forms, covers, and shapes. They run from the foundational things we believe to simple grudges we want to keep. But the basic deep change in our souls toward the new life God talks about always includes a death.

Dispose of your pets and instead remember Philippians 4:8-9

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. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do and the God of peace will be with you.

<http://www.takehisheart.com>