*Wednesday, March 21, 2012*

**Slice of Life**

John 21:15-17 So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. (16) He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep. (17) He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep. (KJV)

Not only is our Lord encouraging Peter to continue in the faith and feed His flock, but He is asking Him to do it for the right reason, motivated by love. God is love, and His message is one of love reaching out to a fallen mankind despite what they have done in the past. You will find that God will use you also when you get past your own desires and make loving Him and His people your first priority.

1 John 3:16-18 Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. (17) But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? (18) My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth. (KJV)

We have a lot of so called pastors who are lip syncing, they know the words but they don’t know how to deliver sound doctrine. Many today are more self seeking than seeking the needs of others, and are not truly feeding the flock of God. In order to be used of our Lord you will have to know more of the walk and less of the talk to do so.

Matthew 25:34-36 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: (35) For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: (36) Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. (KJV)

The harvest is plentiful; however, the laborers are so few and far between because they have allowed the cares of this world and lusts of other things to choke out the truth in love. How many of God’s people are crossing your path today, and how prepared were you to feed the flock with Spiritual meat, clothing, or a word of encouragement to those that are spiritually sick or imprisoned by sin? You know the Lord takes this personal and expects the same thing out of you as He did of Peter, feed my sheep.

1 Corinthians 9:19-21 For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more. (20) And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law; (21) To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law. (KJV)

Paul got the same memo from our Lord, and knew how to feed the flock of God as well. He learned how to relate to those that were under the law, because he was able to hear God’s response on how to feed the sheep. Paul also got that part about becoming a servant as well.

1 Corinthians 9:22-23 To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. (23) And this I do for the gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with you. (KJV)

Have you made yourself available to all today so that when one of our Lord’s lambs or sheep comes along you will be able to give an effective response from above that will feed His flock?