*Friday, April 13, 2012*

**Slice of Life**

James 1:22-24 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. (23) For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: (24) For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. (KJV)

Hey have you ever been on a roll making progress in your walk and maybe just got a bit ahead of yourself so to speak? Sometimes we forget what manner of man we really are; and instead of realizing the humble servant that we should be we forgot that it was grace and not our works that got us into the kingdom of God in the first place.

1 Corinthians 2:13-14 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. (14) But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. (KJV)

God is looking for spiritual people to share spiritual things with, and watch them grow up and mature in the Spirit. Our old natural man is not what our Lord is looking for in His search, so if you sense that things are a bit stagnant maybe you need to go back and look into your spiritual mirror and get a refresher course. The realm of the natural is considered foolishness, and we are only fooling self when we forget what manner of man we really were and how quickly that old man can resurrect if not kept in check.

Titus 3:2-3 To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, but gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men. (3) For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another. (KJV)

Before you put up your dukes and throw down with others maybe you need to be reminded just exactly how the plan of salvation really works and what is really pleasing to our Father. You know, we were all a piece of work ourselves when entering into the kingdom of God and not too pleasant to be around.

Titus 3:4-7 But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, (5) Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; (6) Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; (7) That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life. (KJV)

Anytime we forget that word ‘grace’ we then become a disgrace, forgetting what manner of man we really are. Remember the Lord chose the foolish people of this world, not the ones that were so smart and had their life together, or so they thought.

Hebrews 10:23-24 Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;) (24) And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: (KJV)

How about asking yourself this question also, are you as diligent and willing to hold fast for the needs of others as you are for your own? Something to consider, because you will find that in order to grow strong in the Lord and the power of His might you will have to decrease and let His word increase in order to do so.

Colossians 1:10-12 That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; (11) Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness; (12) Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: (KJV)

Those that are strong in the faith and are being used by our Lord have done so with longsuffering and patience, and not according to their works. Those who our Lord considers fit for His ministry, are open and honest with themselves and do not forget what manner of man they really are. Don’t you either Church!

Psalms 86:15 But thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth. (KJV)