**A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF EPHESIANS: THE WEALTH AND WALK OF A BELIEVER**

*“A Spiritual Prayer for Spiritual People”*

*Ephesians 1:15 Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints,*

*16 Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers;*

* **Genuine faith is made public.**

*“Wherefore I also, after I* ***heard of your faith****…”*

*Matthew 10:32 Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.*

*33 But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.*

*Jesus does not call us into the cozy confines of our homes and church buildings. He calls us to go into the world and preach the gospel..to tell of our faith…to make public what God has done in our lives personally.*

* **Genuine faith is in the Lord Jesus.**

*“…your faith in the* ***Lord Jesus****.”*

**3 components to faith….**

**1)Knowledge**

Faith must have **content**.

To have faith in Jesus we must first know some things about who He is…

- He is God in human flesh

-He is the promised Messiah

-He came to earth to save people from their sins

-He died on the cross in our place

-He rose from the grave on the 3rd day

**2) Assent**

-We must agree that the knowledge that we have is **true**.

**3) Trust**

It is to **fully** **rely** on Him and **commit** oneself to Him.

*“Lord Jesus”* - Lord meaning “**master**”

*Luke 6:46 And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?*

* **Genuine faith results in love for other believers.**

*“…and* ***love*** *unto all the saints,”*

* Genuine love is the **litmus** **test** of genuine salvation. (I Jn. 4:20)

*1 John 4:20 If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?*

* Genuine love is the evidence of the **Holy** **Spirit’s** presence. (Gal. 5:22-23)

*Galatians 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,*

* Genuine love **assures** us of our salvation. (I Jn. 3:14-20)
* Genuine love is **without** **partiality**. (Eph. 1:15; James 2:1-9)

*“love unto* ***all the saints****,”*

* Genuine love **expresses** itself. (I Jn. 3:16-19)
* Genuine love for one another is the basis upon which the **world** **judges** our relationship with Christ. (Jn. 13:34-35; Jn. 17:20-21)

*John 13:34 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.*

*35 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.*

**Conclusion:**

 **1**) Are you living your faith “out loud”? Would those with whom you work, go to school or live among say that you are unashamedly, unapologetically and unwaveringly a follower of Jesus Christ?

 2) If GBC (as a church body) was judged solely on the basis of how you love people, how loving of a church would we be considered?

 3) What one thing will you begin to do (that you currently are not) to make GBC a more loving church?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_