

Stewardship of The Body (Part 3)

Christlike Thinking in This World

Adult Training Seminar Session 6 – Kevin Schoonhoven 10-27-19

Review

“...taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ” 2 Corinthians 10:5
How does Jesus want me to think and represent Him on this issue?

Worldview is . . . submission of your mind to Christ evidenced by your willingness and commitment to follow Him and His teaching in all areas of life – Discipleship!

1A. Foundational Reminder – Sufficiency

- 1B. Savior – John 10 & Colossians 2
- 2B. Scripture – 2 Timothy 3:16-17, Psalm 119:105
- 3B. Spirit – Galatians 3:3 & His Titles

2A. Survey of Our Culture & Perhaps Your Own Personal Past

Consider the source – From where did this influence originate and why? No such thing as neutrality

3A. The Process of Developing a Christian Worldview Restated

- 1) Humble Your Heart – Check Your Motives (Proverbs 3:5-7)
- 2) Read the Entire New Testament Gathering the texts addressing or related to the issue
 - Is there a clear command which mandates or prohibits certain aspects of this area of life?
 - Word Studies & Cross References – Concordance Search of Synonyms.
 - Look for Examples that are exact or parallel
- 3) Identify Areas of Biblical & Theological Foundations that Apply
- 4) Seek the Help of God Given and God Gifted Teachers Empowered by The Spirit
Qualified Counselors (usually older are wiser) vs peers, rubber stampers
- 5) Write down your reasons and have discussions with others
- 6) Get true facts vs propaganda—Consider the source & the content (Titus 1:15)
 - The place for input from unbelievers Medical advances, nutritionist, farmers
 - Experience & Emotions vs Objective Truth
 - Consider your Cultural Context But it's not Final Beware Worldliness
- 7) Hold to your convictions without wavering yet with humility
- 8) Pray throughout the process and prayer as a lifestyle
- 9) Apply what you learn to your life (choices & conversations)

4A. The Process of Developing a Christian Worldview Applied to Stewardship of The Body

Step 1 - Humble Your Heart Ezra 7:10

Step 2 – 7 Key Biblical Texts to Recover Christlike Thinking and Living Regarding our Physical Bodies

First Two Sessions Goal was to carry your conscience that you are not free to do what you want with your body but you are instead a steward of a body that belongs to Christ. Create this fundamental change in your mindset that will translate into how you then daily live and make decisions regarding your body that Christ has loaned to you.

Today's Goal – Help you process what we covered in first 2 sessions and apply it

- 1) Romans 12:1-2 (cf Romans 6:12-19)

¹Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. ²And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

Present your body and the members of your body daily to The Lord as act of worship

Don't let your thinking about acceptable worship be conformed to the culture but according to God's word

2) 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

¹²All things are lawful for me, but not all things are profitable. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be mastered by anything. ¹³Food is for the stomach and the stomach is for food, but God will do away with both of them. Yet the body is not for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord is for the body. ¹⁴Now God has not only raised the Lord, but will also raise us up through His power. ¹⁵Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take away the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? May it never be! ¹⁶Or do you not know that the one who joins himself to a prostitute is one body with her? For He says, "The two shall become one flesh." ¹⁷But the one who joins himself to the Lord is one spirit with Him. ¹⁸Flee immorality. Every other sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body. ¹⁹Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? ²⁰For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

Summary Statements

- The Dignity of The Body established by . . .
 - Body is "for The Lord" v13b
 - Body is destined for resurrection glory v14
 - Body is in Union with Christ vv15-17
 - Body is a Blood bought, Spirit Indwelt Temple of God v19-20
- Our Body belongs to Christ – We are His Slave, He owns you vv19b-20a
- All actions taken in this body and done to our body must advance and consider the contribution to or jeopardizing of the Dignity of The Body

The implications of being a slave. We are God's money manager & we are God's body manager and do so TO THE GLORY of GOD

3) 1 Corinthians 9:24-27

²³I do all things for the sake of the gospel, so that I may become a fellow partaker of it. ²⁴Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win. ²⁵Everyone who competes in the games exercises self-control in all things. They then do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we (do it) an imperishable. ²⁶Therefore I run in such a way, as not without aim; I box in such a way, as not beating the air; ²⁷but I discipline my body and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified.

Make your body your slave and make it advance your spiritual priorities of loving & serving Christ

Don't let your bodily appetites and cravings rule over you

Live a strictly disciplined life over your body for the honor of Christ and in relationship to Him

4) 1 Timothy 4:7-8

⁷But have nothing to do with worldly fables fit only for old women. On the other hand, discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness; ⁸for bodily discipline is only of little profit, but godliness is profitable for all things, since it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.

Physical discipline is profitable and should be done to maximize your godly representation of Christ

Use every available means to strengthen your physical body so that you might maximize your ministry

5) 3 John 2 Describe the condition of Gaius' healthy soul

²Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul prospers.

Steward your body by actions consistent with Apostolic prayers, even Spirit & Christ's intercession for you

6) Exodus 20:13 - You shall not murder

When something is forbidden the opposite duty is commanded. Human physical life is sanctified as reflecting the Image of God. Pursue all means of preserving, protecting, enhancing and receiving life as a gift from God and avoid those things that either in a moment in time or over long periods of time erode and destroy life. Don't murder your body by irresponsible unfaithful stewardship of it

7) Matthew 7:12 – The Golden Rule

In everything, therefore, treat people the same way you want them to treat you, for this is the Law and the Prophets

Be a faithful steward of your body so that you are not a cause of doing something to others that you would not want done to you. Premature widowhood, excessive doctor's visits, energy to do minister together, etc.

Step 3 – Identify Areas of Biblical & Theological Foundations that Apply

Bibliology – Special Revelation is Final Authority (Step 2 of process)

Theology Proper – Attributes of God

- Creator – Your physical constitution, appearance, bone structure, personality, race & general revelation
- Sovereign – Your date of birth & death, time in history
- Goodness – A heavenly Father who knows you, cares for you & provides for you

Satanology & Demonology

- False teaching of Health Gospel & “Faith”

Christology

- Jesus’ own body—bodily resurrection, patterns of perfect human existence
- Jesus many physical healings & compassionate concern for needs
- Apart from Him we can do nothing (i.e. not mere human willpower in stewardship of body)

Pneumatology – Spirit Indwelt Temple

Anthropology - Image of God

Hamartiology

- Fall of man means no perfect health
Physical Illness, disabilities & death are a permanent part of life in this fallen world until glorification

Soteriology

- Proper – our salvation & our gospel preaching
Eternal justification is secure. Imputation of Christ’s righteousness not in question.
- Practice – our sanctification & putting on/putting off
 - Clay Pot “Earthen Vessels” “Body of humiliation—Christ’s Incarnation”
 - Priority of Spiritual over Physical not to elimination of physical
Inner man vs outer man. Inner is our greater concern and our top priority
 - Understanding of word “Flesh” – Principle of Sin, physical corpse or both in union
 - Physical Trials may be the result of . . . (yet always purposeful James 1:2-4)
 - Sovereign Act of God (John 9)
 - Disciplinary Hand of God (Corinthians abuse of Lord’s Table)
 - Preventative Tool (Paul’s Thorn in the Flesh)
 - Principle of Sowing & Reaping (Galatians 6:7-10) Unfaithful Stewardship

Ecclesiology

- Meeting physical needs – brother needs clothing or food. Loving my brothers & sisters
- Not judging external
Favoritism, prejudice, judge with righteous judgement, external beauty is fleeting
- Differing convictions held passionately with desire to persuade but peaceably & humbly.
Handling disagreements as a FAMILY, Paul & Barnabas, One anothers. Patience

Eschatology

- Death is certain
- Future Reward is certain
- Bodily Resurrection is certain – you will have a body forever!

Step 4 - Seek the Help of God Given and God Gifted Teachers Empowered by The Spirit

- Pastoral Counsel
- Recommend Book by Albert N Martin “Glorifying God in Your Body”

Steps 5 - Write down your reasons and have discussions with others

Step 6 – Get true facts vs propaganda (Consider the Source: Their worldview & Their content)

- Be discerning with regard to all media—mass media, social media
- What are their presuppositions and agenda? The mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart
- Follow the money yet avoid cynicism that all economic profit is necessarily evil

Step 7 - Hold to your convictions without wavering yet with humility

Step 8 - Pray throughout the process and prayer as a lifestyle

Step 9 - Apply what you learn to your life (choices & conversations) =

1) Cremation

2) Sleep

3) Tattoo