

CIRCULATE, BUT DON'T CAPITULATE



Sometimes we just want to get away from all the corruption and confusion.

To a monastery?

A Christian village off in the hills?

A hermit hut on a rocky crag above the ocean?

The “escape solution” has been tried a million times and always failed.

No matter how far we run, the world is always there.

So why run?

Jesus tells us to circulate, but not capitulate.

“Be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.”

But where will we get the wisdom of serpents? And the innocence of doves?

“I do not pray that thou shouldst take them out of the world, but that thou shouldst keep them from the evil one.

They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Sanctify them in the truth; thy word is truth.

As thou didst send me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.

And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be consecrated in truth.”

John 17



We become wise as serpents and innocent as doves when Jesus consecrates us.

“And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be consecrated in truth.”

He makes us wise as serpents.

So that we stay focused.

We don't get sucked into the mind-set of this world.

We know who we belong to.

We're on our way to a cross.

By this wisdom we discern deceit.

We smell evil when it enters the room.

And we fix on the “one thing needful”:

The Father's Kingdom.

The Father's will.

The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!" And he said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Behold, I have given you authority to tread upon serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing shall hurt you. Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you; but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

Luke 10

He makes us innocent as doves.

In that same hour he rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, "I thank thee, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou hast hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to babes; yea, Father, for such was thy gracious will."

Luke 10

We are innocent when we become babes before our Lord.

When we trust him like little children.

Child-like innocence is a wall of protection.

Causing us to recoil from temptation.

Helping us to discern lies.

Empowering us to speak and live the truth.

We live our lives in the thick of the confusion.



We circulate, but we do not capitulate.

That's how our Lord did it.

And as he sat at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and sat down with Jesus and his disciples. And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

But when he heard it, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."

Matthew 9



That's how Paul did it.

Three times I have been beaten with rods; once I was stoned. Three times I have been shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been adrift at sea; on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brethren; in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure.

II Corinthians 11

That's how we do it.

We circulate with our eyes open to the forgotten ones.

We never capitulate because our hearts are fixed on God.



We move among people who are...

Trying to make a living.

Trying to have some fun.

Trying to find a friend.

Trying to “make a bundle”.

Trying to climb the social ladder.

Looking for a fix.

Enduring the devastation of war.

Struggling with bad memories.

“The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few.”



REB...July 2021

Art: Photos from Covenant Community Care Homeless Outreach Program

Prayer- Open our eyes Jesus to the forgotten one. As we go out to those that you send us to... consecrate us, protect us from the evil one so we may remain innocent. And yes, while we are in the midst of the sick, the lost, the confused...cause us to recoil at evil, discern lies, and continue to speak the truth ... give us wisdom and prudence as well. As we circulate among the lost... we look to you... without you we are powerless and lost ourselves. Cover us with your presence, your holiness, your wisdom, your healing power... Maranatha Mirro



Maranatha Mirror Messages

mmirror.net

maranathamirror18@gmail.com