

Instamacy – All By My Selfie

Title: Problems Stand Down

February 18, 2018 – Pastor Jeffrey Farnsworth

TEXT:

Mark 12:29-30 – “Jesus replied, “The most important commandment is this: ‘Listen, O Israel! The LORD our God is the one and only LORD. And you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.’”

Definition of Instamacy: a relationship that started online, a relationship that goes all in right off the bat when you meet face to face.

People are more in love with being a Christian than who they are in Jesus. You got to BE ALL IN. You need to know who you are in Christ, and that your relationship with Christ matters.

A Relationship gives you access to the things of God. There are things that you need from God that others cannot give you.

When the storms of life hit (like a hurricane), you cling to Jesus (praying, reading your word, fasting). But after the devastation, you let go of God and declare I’ll get through this, I’m okay, I can do it, although there is disaster all around me and you have no power or authority to create life.

People have lost the standard and that’s why you have problems. You wonder why you have problems in your relationship, your family, your workplace...you don’t set the standard

- If you don’t value something your kids won’t either. If you want your kids to serve the Lord then you serve the Lord.

Romans 12:2 - do not conform to the patterns of this world (don’t try to fit in, STAND OUT) but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

As Christians we’re called to stand out and to stand up. Our standard needs to upward.

This is what Moses did.....

Exodus 14:5-7, 10-12: When word reached the king of Egypt that the Israelites had fled, Pharaoh and his officials changed their minds. “What have we done, letting all those Israelite slaves get away?” they asked. ⁶ So Pharaoh harnessed his chariot and called up his troops. ⁷ He took with him 600 of Egypt’s best chariots, along with the rest of the chariots of Egypt, each with its commander.

¹⁰ As Pharaoh approached, the people of Israel looked up and panicked when they saw the Egyptians overtaking them. They cried out to the LORD, ¹¹ and they said to Moses, “Why did you bring us out here to die in the wilderness? Weren’t there enough graves for us in Egypt? What have you done to us? Why did you make us leave Egypt? ¹² Didn’t we tell you this would happen while we were still in Egypt? We said, ‘Leave us alone! Let us be slaves to the Egyptians. It’s better to be a slave in Egypt than a corpse in the wilderness!’”

They wanted to be free from slavery and not their panicking in the midst of this problem. They wanted an instant solution.

The world culture wants things to happen right now.... if you can't have it that way, you come up with reasons why it should be that way even when you are completely wrong.

- A lot of times what people do is create a system to accommodate their situation
- I don't need the world solutions I have the Grand Solution
 - We even do this with God

Author G.K Chesterton says it this way –

“When belief in God becomes difficult the tendency is to turn away from God, but in heavens name to what?

- Don't say God is silent when your bible is closed
- You need to set your standard to God above

Proverbs 26:11 – As a dog returns to its vomit, so a fool repeats his foolishness.

- Don't keep returning to your past.

Where else are you going to when God seems to be confusing - where else are you going to get answers from? It's worth the fight too to work it out

- Don't despise small beginnings.
- Just because you see the smaller picture doesn't mean that there is not a bigger plan.
 - Remember that Elijah sent Elisha out to look for rain – after many attempts Elisha came back and said I see a rain cloud the size of a man's hand.... Get moving.
 - Just because you don't have the right perspective does not mean you stop looking at the potential

It's like a parade.... at ground level you only see what is in front of you.... but rise up, and see more of the picture. Remember God sees the beginning and the end... a change to your perspective. See what Gods sees, not what your problem limits you to.

- Problems want to limit you, but God wants to rise you up.
- GOD is not your DJ, God does not just take requests but He requires faith/action/movement
- Faith requires action!!!!

Faith does not always show you everything. You have to walk by faith - Faith is the Way, Grace is the means

- FEED YOUR FAITH, STARVE YOUR PROBLEM.
- Feed your faith, depress your problem.
- Feed your faith, choke your problem.

And as Pastor says: With greater revelation comes a greater manifestation and Confession leads to possession

You become what you talk about.

If you start talking about heavenly language, heavenly language will come down to consume your problem

- I don't have a crisis, I have a CHRIST!

Start believing that:

- There is a purpose for your pressure
- There is a plan for your pressure

When there is pressure there is more power.

Stream rises up, Smoke rises up EXPLAIN: Train / Radiators (forced hot air or forced hot water)

- Don't let the pressure bring you down! Let the pressure push you up
- It's because in the mists of a problem we hate the pressure it brings, but it's in the pressure that reveals the Power behind it. BOOM

As the Israelites stood there between the Red Sea and the Egyptian armies we see that they freaked out. They lost sight of the promise land.

- It's when you don't have priorities in line it causes problems

Don't be limited by what you don't have and start looking at what you do have. To rejoice before you receive your desired breakthrough takes faith!!!

Luke 10:19 – Look, I have given you authority over all the power of the enemy, and you can walk among snakes and scorpions and crush them. Nothing will injure you.

- Your circumstances do not have authority to overrule God's Word - John Bevere
- A lot of times in life we are stepping over the opportunity that God has for us because we are calling it a distraction
 - Start looking forward at someone's potential rather than looking back at their past failures

Where there is pressure there is a promise

Deuteronomy 31:6 – So be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid and do not panic before them. For the LORD your God will personally go ahead of you. He will neither fail you nor abandon you."

- Why be worried about failure when with God you can only move one way and that is forward.
 - We have been given an assignment to be citizens of Heaven.
 - Philippians 3:20 – But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior.
- We need to realize that we are not most afraid of failure but of Change.
 - Israel did not want change, even when they said they did.

It takes change to receive change

- It won't be your way
- It won't be what you are expecting
- Don't rely on past blessings to get you through your present failures
 - Change the way you think and act.

For change to take place in our lives it takes our attention. We need to value it and want to face it and move forward.

- I can tell what you want by what you give your time to by what you value.
- The place of the change you are looking for is the place of your attention. Focus on it
 - **Colossians 3:2** – Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth.

Receive healthy change:

It takes time to tear down a wall and build one! (Example if time permits)

- You build the wall not the enemy
- A lot of people think it's the devil attacking you but sometimes it's God rearranging things to get through to you so you know its God
- It's here you start making excuses for your problem to make yourself feel better moving backwards, but God all along wants you to move forward

What Pastor talked about is your relationship with God matters.

- There are no relationships that don't fight, but you can make your relationship worth the fight
- Because relationships are work
 - You have to value it

- **Romans 8:28** – And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.
 - Two ways in relationships: do I try harder or do I walk away

Religion wants you to show God all the good parts when relationships want to show you all the broken parts - Pastor Tim Delina

People want to put a title to their problems.

- Because it makes you feel good, like when the doctor gives a title to your problem, it makes it superficial.
- With God there is only one solution to the problem and His Name is Jesus.
- God gives you the resources for success but is up to you to recognize them and use them to their fullest.
- God does not want you to clean up your prayers, he wants you to be honest with him
- You can't use prayer to replace laziness.
 - No investment, no return
 - You can't reap somebody else's harvest with your own investment
 - Don't rely on past blessings to bring you into future victories
 - **Lamentations 3:22-23** The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

God is calling you to be all in, to give everything you have to put a full value on something, not just a partial one because you're going to receive partially, but invest fully and you'll receive all that God has promised you.

- **Luke 6:38** – Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full—pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back.
 - You have to give all, to get all
 - You can't have all of God when you just going to give pieces of yourself you need to be all in

If He changes your heart, He changes your life

- God says if you will, I will
(You are waiting on me, but I am waiting on you)
- It cost to make a comeback
- God is not going to bless your wrong

You have to go thru something to value it. Don't just value the result, value what God has brought you thru!
(It's like when you get a A on a test, how did you get to the A)

- Sometimes we are not willing to go through a problem or face the situation that God can use the most, so that will have to rely on His grace.

A delayed benefit – (you studied for the test) when you work out it's a delayed process but you got to trust the process

- It's difficult to hit a target you cannot see, it is impossible to hit a target you do not have.
- If you don't give your dreams dates, then they will never become goals
 - You need to learn how to dream again!!! Dream big, don't let finances, past convictions, stunt your dreams
- It's the things that caused us the most pain that are usually the roots that develop our true purpose! This is what happened to Job

Job 42:1-2 – Then Job replied to the LORD: "I know that you can do anything, and no one can stop you. (This should be are declaration)

- Job got it, lost everything and gained it all back plus some.

Listen to the rest of the Story:

Exodus 14:13-15 ¹³ But Moses told the people, “Don’t be afraid. Just stand still and watch the LORD rescue you today. The Egyptians you see today will never be seen again. ¹⁴ The LORD himself will fight for you. Just stay calm.”¹⁵ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Why are you crying out to me? Tell the people to get moving!

Verse 15 why are you crying out to me, tell the people to get moving..... when problems come into your life, get moving into the promises of God’s word.

Spoiler alert - this is not the end. YOU WIN, Israel wins, it’s time to dream again and launch into the future.

Moses and the Red Sea experience with the Israelites, we see that they were one-way on one side of the sea and thanks to God for bridging the gap by splitting the Red Sea. Then when they made it to the other side they watched the destruction of the Egyptians and it was then the Israelites were raised up to another level.

Phillipians 1:6 - “And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.”

- You need to realize that you are nothing without the Lord and once you realize that you are nothing without the Lord you begin to have everything with the Lord

Be ALL in – and receive from the Lord. God calls us up.