November 11, 2018

Speaker: Tim McCardel Message Series: Hope – Defeating The Enemy Inside Today's Message: The Power of Sin in How It Works

<u>Jeremiah 17:9</u> "The <u>human heart</u> is the <u>most deceitful</u> of all things and <u>desperately wicked</u>. Who really knows how bad it is?"

The Art of _____: to make someone <u>believe</u> that things are other than they are, so that <u>he will do</u> something <u>he would never</u> otherwise do.

1. Setting Up The _____

<u>Hebrews 3:13</u> "But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be <u>hardened</u> by sin's <u>deceitfulness</u>."

- * The Flesh Uses Deceit—this law of sin in us, the flesh, <u>uses deceit</u> to knock out the watchman of your soul: ______
- * Deception—not just flooding all around us, it's a fact of life inside us—concealing, hiding, the truth

<u>James 1:14, 15</u> "... each one is tempted when, by <u>his own evil desire</u>, he is dragged away and enticed. Then, after <u>desire</u> has conceived, it gives <u>birth</u> to sin; and sin, when it is <u>full-grown</u>, <u>gives birth</u> to <u>death</u>."

2. Getting Carried _____

Genesis 39:6-10

- \Rightarrow **Passing the Test**—Joseph's _____ protected by <u>Two Big Thoughts</u>:
- 1) "How then could I do such a wicked thing?"
- 2) "How then could I ... sin against God?"

1 Peter 1:13-16

- \Rightarrow **Prepared For Action**—Joseph in <u>his mind</u> thru the deceit
- ⇒ The First Line of Defense—to keep our minds ______ that every sin is a rebellion against God!

<u>Jeremiah 2:19</u> "<u>Consider</u> then and realize <u>how evil</u> and <u>bitter</u>... when you <u>forsake the Lord your God</u> and have <u>no awe</u> of Me."

<u>2 Corinthians 5:14</u> *"For <u>Christ's love compels us</u>"* - Paul's <u>mind</u> stayed <u>focused on God</u>, on <u>His love</u>, <u>His</u> <u>grace</u>, and <u>His goodness</u>.

Colossians 3:2 "Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things."

 \Rightarrow A Key Tactic of the Flesh—_____

3. Our Job: Kill the Flesh

<u>Romans 8:13</u> *"For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if <u>by the Spirit</u> you <u>put to death</u> the misdeeds of the body, <u>you will live</u>."*

- * Few Christians are <u>aware</u> of our <u>God-given tools</u> to <u>finish the job</u>.
- * The Flesh—furiously fights against us fixing our minds on the evil of sin and on the grace of God.
- * God-Given Tools—Meditation and Real Prayer: Helpful Training:
- 1) Speak to God as you <u>contemplate</u> His character, His glory, majesty and humbly adore and admire God, <u>delighting</u> in Him.
- 2) Study the Word to know the Living Word—never study and pray without <u>calling out to God for help</u>.
- 3) Ask the Holy Spirit to use His Word to shine light into the cracks and crevices of your soul.
- * When The Watchman Fails, not only is he lost, but the <u>Whole Nation</u> is <u>LAID WASTE</u>.

4. Loving God With All Your Mind

<u>Hebrews 5:14</u> "Solid food is for the <u>mature</u>, who by <u>constant use</u> have <u>trained</u> themselves to <u>distinguish</u> <u>good from evil</u>."

 \Rightarrow When our minds are <u>dull</u> and <u>sluggish</u>—the conscience will be bribed or corrupted.

2 Corinthians 5:14, 15

⇒ A Lazy Soul—says he'll "never be perfect", so he says "Why bother?" and is content with spiritual deadness and apathy

Romans 8:13