

Moving from the Petty to the Real (in Love)

Even though all sin should be gradually defeated in the life of the church, there is one category of sin that is especially hurtful. It isn't hurtful because of its shocking force. It is especially hurtful because it hides behind smiles, pious words, and self-righteousness. These sins are the sins of pettiness.

Scripture(s): 2 Corinthians 6:11-7:8

Petty practice # 1 - Respond to sacrificial love with _____. When the motive of Christian love is clear, it makes no Biblical sense to _____ it.

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 4 Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, 5 does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered, 6 does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; 7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

✓ Embrace trust as a _____ way of approaching fellow believers.

Petty practice # 2 - Accept others based upon outward appearance rather than what they _____ and Who (God) they love. We must build our relationships on _____ rather than physical or superficial things.

Numbers 16:25-26 25 Then Moses arose and went to Dathan and Abiram, with the elders of Israel following him, 26 and he spoke to the congregation, saying, "Depart now from the tents of these wicked men, and touch nothing that belongs to them, or you will be swept away in all their sin."

✓ Invest in relationships with others who will urge you to say _____ to Jesus.

Petty practice # 3 - Appreciate only those who say things the way _____ would say it, instead of those who urge you to _____ Jesus. We must be willing to listen to people who love Jesus and not just those who tell us what we want to hear.

2 Timothy 4:3-4 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, 4 and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.

Petty practice # 4 - Wallow in self-pity and refuse to be _____. Christian growth means that we nurture our belief in God's desire and power to heal our _____ even through others.

2 Corinthians 1:3-4 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our affliction so that we will be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

✓ Let those who just want to share _____ with you in!

Remember this - God's people give up the petty practices of the _____ that destroy fellowship.

Our challenge: Ask for help if tempted to live in _____.

August 2, 2020

"Come, Now Is the Time
to Worship"

"He Hideth My Soul" 340

"Tis So Sweet to Trust in
Jesus" 411

* Pastoral Prayer &
Children's Sermon *

"I Will Call Upon the Lord"