

God's Classroom

Message #2 "Pay Attention to Spiritual Canaries"

Scripture: Survey

Pastor Phil Whetstone

October 24, 2021

Spiritual Indicators

1. Lagging sense **of joy**.

"...the joy of the Lord is your strength" Nehemiah 8:10

"Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. 12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me." Psalms 51:11-12

2. Lost sense of **peace**.

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts..." Colossians 3:15-16

3. Lousy **attitude**.

"Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:...12 Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed — not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence — continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, 13 for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose. 14 Do everything without complaining or arguing, 15 so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe 16 as you hold out the word of life." Philippians 2:5-16

- **Complaints** - Philippians 2:14
- **Relationships** - Colossians 3:13
- **Frustrations** - James 1:19
- **Resentments** - Job 36:13, Hebrews 12:15, Ephesians 4:31
- **Patience** - I Corinthians 13:4

4. Lack of **oxygen**.

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. 17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." Colossians 3:15-17

Avoidance of the **Word**.

Avoidance of **Prayer**.

Avoidance of **Fellowship** (Not all people, just people who will press me deeper in Christ.)

5. Lack of **spiritual victory**.

"So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! 13 No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it." I Corinthians 10:12-13

6. Loss of **passion**.

"Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. 11 Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. 12 Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." Romans 12:10-13

Revelations 2:2-5 - **The Church at Ephesus**

"I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance....4 Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken your first love."

Revelations 3:1-2 - **The Church of Sardis**

"These are the words of him who holds the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead. 2 Wake up!"

Revelations 3:15-16 - **The Church of Laodicea**

"I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! 16 So, because you are lukewarm — neither hot nor cold..."

"It may be true that a wise young believer is very rare, but it is also true that a zealous old believer is rare. Never allow yourself to believe that you have done too much. For everyone who does too much I will show you 1000 who don't do enough...lay to heart the words of the nobleman when told to rest a little... 'What should we rest now for...have we not all of eternity to rest in.'" John Wesley

"Satan's commission from the black room is clear and it's fatal. Take nothing from your victim, cause him only to take everything for granted." GOD CAME NEAR, Max Lucado

7. **Lost song.**

"Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things; his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him. 2 The Lord has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations. 3 He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God."

Psalms 98:1-3

"And they sang a new song: 'You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. 10 You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth.'" Revelations 5:9-13

A few truths:

1. The Holy Spirit searches me at a much deeper level than I can search for myself.

"Search me, O God, and know my heart..." Psalms 139:23

"Test me, O Lord, and try me, examine my heart and mind" Psalms 26:2

2. There is tremendous power in the question.

"But the Lord God called to the man, 'Where are you'?" Genesis 3:9

3. God speaks often in "THE PAUSE."

"Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for Him." Psalms 37:7