

## **Silent Sin**

Jonathan Landis 3/18/07

Tonight allow me to share with you, what the Lord has been dealing with me about. As I speak to you tonight, I don't speak as one who has it all figured out... or has mastered this topic. I speak as a student, learning myself, even as I share with you what I've learned so far. The Lord's been dealing with me about my calling to be a witness to the lost. In my personal times of prayer the last few days... the Lord has awakened my heart to the desperate situation our world is in, and how I as a Christian, all of us as Christians, have a calling to share our faith with our generation.

**Prayer:** Lord OPEN my heart to receive your Word tonight. Open my eyes to see the harvest. Open my ears to hear your voice. Amen.

We'll open up with Christ speaking to the Samaritan woman @ the well. She came to the well looking to draw water... and what she got was a drink of Living Water. Meanwhile his disciples were in town getting lunch.

### **John 4:27-35 NIV**

Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, "What do you want?" or "Why are you talking with her?"

[28] Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, [29] "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Christ?" [30] They came out of the town and made their way toward him.

[31] Meanwhile his disciples urged him, "Rabbi, eat something."

[32] But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you know nothing about."

[33] Then his disciples said to each other, "Could someone have brought him food?"

[34] "My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. [35] Do you not say, 'Four months more and then the harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.

### **Being a Witness Is a Part of Growing In God**

Jesus considered evangelism as His food. (Vs. 32) It was sustenance to Him to fulfill the will of Father God by sharing salvation with the lost. As followers of Christ, sharing our faith is needed to grow in God. We have got to be in the Word of God, we've got to be in prayer, and we've got to be witnesses to be healthy Christians. It feeds us spiritually, when we feed others with the Bread of Life - which is Jesus Christ.

**The harvest is right now.** People are ready to be gathered into God's house. The fruit is ripe to be picked... but the trouble is there are not enough workers out in the fields.

-Song "Open Your Eyes"

### **Romans 10:11-15 NIV**

As the Scripture says, "Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame." [12] For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile--the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, [13] for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

[14] How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? [15] And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

**(vs. 13) Q: Who will be saved?**

Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord

**Q: How can people believe in Him if they haven't heard about Him? How can people hear without someone telling them?**

They can't!!! People need to be told the good news!!! That's the "news" part of it. Without us sharing the good news, it won't be news to anyone.

Do you remember what it was like before you received Christ? Do you remember how empty you were? Do you remember how pointless life seemed? I do...

My ex (Share briefly - depression, hidden sin, no self-worth)

Others (alcohol, drugs, sexual addictions, filthy language, pride)

**Q: How did you hear about Him?**

Did somebody tell you? **Who told you about the Lord?**

Did somebody invite you to church?

Did your parents lead you to the Lord... or a friend?

Did your grandmother pray you into the Kingdom?

The point is, **someone** showed each of us the way to Christ... and we have to show others the way.

**Q: Who is responsible for this generation???**

-We are. Our grandparents won't be held responsible for this generation, and neither will our grandchildren. They will be held responsible for their own generations. We will be held responsible for our generation. If we remain silent, when God commands us to speak, their blood's on our hands.

The Blind Man:

Q: If a blind man we're walking towards a deep, open well... and you saw him... wouldn't you be responsible to warn him of the danger to his life!?!?

Our generation - a blind man (unaware of his certain destruction)  
-They are blind to their own sin, and blind to the things of God.  
This generation is blind of their destination, they don't realize they're about to fall into a pit... the pit of hell.  
Church - We're standing by watching... will we be silent, or speak

**Prayer: God, give us a burden for the lost. Let our hearts share your passion for them. Let us remember when we were in a desperate state, and realize the desperate state they're in now. Give us boldness to share the good news at every opportunity. Overcome our fear with faith. God, don't let us put our fears before the needs of our generation. Give us the words to speak, and the courage to speak them.**

**Pray for God's heart for the lost.**