

SOUL'S NEED: DELIVERANCE

Luke 13:10-17



SYNOPSIS

As we continue in our Soul Care series, we come to the topic of deliverance. In the passage, a woman with a physical ailment is healed because Jesus casts out an evil spirit. In the age of modernity, the spiritual realm was often waved off, but we are now living in a post-modern world, where belief in the supernatural and spiritual realm is quite common. It has become more in line with the Biblical worldview.

Yet not everything that goes wrong can be attributed to demonic spirits, and we need to be careful about that. There are three sources of spiritual conflicts that we read about in Ephesians 2:1-3. The ways of this world (our environment, society, and culture), the kingdom of the air (the principalities and spiritual dark forces), and the cravings of our flesh (our own sinful desires). We need to be able to discern the root causes as Jesus did.

Jesus was able to quickly discern that this was the work from an evil spirit, and he brings a powerful Kingdom demonstration in their midst. As we wrapped up the sermon, we also understand that not everyone has such a keen awareness and ability to discern. Part of that awareness is a gift from the Holy Spirit, in which we all have different spiritual gifts. But as the Church matures in its giftings and as it learns to hold the tension of the different gifts that make up the Body of Christ, we will be able to see more of God's kingdom here on earth as it is in heaven.



3 IMPORTANT POINTS

1 SPIRITUAL REALM
On one end of the spectrum, people want to dismiss the spiritual realm and the idea of angels and demons. On the other end of the spectrum, people see demons behind every bush and under every rock. As we read through Scriptures, our understanding is that the spiritual realm is real, but we also need to have discernment (not calling everything a spiritual attack), especially as we minister to people.

2 SPIRITUAL CONFLICT
Spiritual conflict can occur through at least three different avenues that we find in Ephesians 2:1-3. In this passage, we find that spiritual conflict can occur through the ways of this world, the kingdom of the air, and the cravings of our flesh. The fallen world we are part of, the spiritual realm, and our own sinful desires can be root causes when we encounter spiritual conflict.

2 SPIRITUAL GIFTS
Not everyone has the gift of discerning of spirits, but it is a spiritual gift given by the Holy Spirit (who loves to give gifts to the Church for the building up of the Body of Christ). As we discover our own giftedness as part of the Body of Christ, may we use it to see more of God's kingdom here on earth as it is in heaven.



kairos
church



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1

What is the first thing you think of when you think about the spiritual realm? What do you think about when you think of angels and demons?

2

Look at Ephesians 2:1-3. When you sense a spiritual conflict, what do you typically address it to? Our fallen world? Spiritual attack? Or your own sinful desires?

3

As you look at Luke 13, how does Jesus handle the situation with this woman, this daughter of Abraham? How should we go about ministering to others?

4

What have been your experiences with spiritual gifts and have you discovered the gifts you lean towards?

5

Generally speaking, do you lean more on the side of the spectrum of dismissing the spiritual realm or over-acknowledging it?



BIG IDEA

Sometimes things are not the way it seems and whether we want to acknowledge it or not, there is a spiritual realm that is more real than the physical realities that we hold to. Yet we also need to discern what the root causes of the spiritual conflict is, because not everything is attributed to demonic spirits (as it could be a result of our own sinful desires). As we grow in awareness to the spiritual realm, we also need to be aware of the spiritual gifts that were given to the Body of Christ (one of which is the discerning of spirits), so that we can mature in the giftings that God has given His people as a blessing to others.