

## **“TRIM OUR LAMPS”...**

This morning as I was praying the lord told me something which is so in tune with what we discern around us and as we all can see that is this end of days, let us trim our lamps, remove the burnt out portion, remove the stagnant oil and get a refill from his presence lest we be found wanting.

We are all aware that there are various kinds of conferences happening these days, and these seems to be the happening events promising on the spot breakthroughs in finance and every area of struggle only to be left searching for another conference for another breakthrough .Like the School of Prophets , Worship Seminars, Evangelistic Outreach Seminars, Pastoral Conferences and the list goes on. And even courses on sharpening oratory skills, ways and means to defend your faith and of course not to forget the soaking spas especially for women through emotional songs and so on, the list is endless.

Now let me say something, I m not against all this. Each one to his own. We are free to accumulate the kind of teachers and teachings we crave and desire for. They are good and may be helpful for many... But what I want to bring is a message, on how many are really emphasizing on having a relationship with the LORD and abiding in his ways.

From the beginning of my walk with the LORD until today, its been 9 years, I have met and seen and interacted closely with different types of believers. Some stagger me, some perplex me, some confuse me, some rejoice me, some are extremely zealous for the LORD, Some are normal and some are lukewarm. Some are sitting on the thorny fence which doesn't seems to be hurting or discomforting them because of the deceitfulness of riches and that place seems to be a place of ease to them, some hanging in between and swinging in between the WORLD and the WORD.



**Mark 4:14-20**

**14 The farmer sows the word.**

**15 Some people are like seed along the path, where the word is sown. As soon as they hear it, Satan comes and takes away the word that was sown in them.**

**16 Others, like seed sown on rocky places, hear the word and at once receive it with joy.**

**17 But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away.**

**18 Still others, like seed sown among thorns, hear the word;**

**19 but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful.**

**20 Others, like seed sown on good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop—some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times what was sown.”**

**In Mark 4, Jesus throws to the disciples the parable of sower and later he explains the same to them. Jesus explains 4 types of people in The PARABLE of SOWER....**

**- Farmer sows the word**

**1) Some people are like the seeds along the path, where the word is sown. As soon as they hear it, Satan comes and takes away the word that was sown in them.**

**2) Some people are like the seeds sown on rocky places, hear the word and at once receive it with joy. But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away.**

3) Still others, are like the seed sown among thorns, hear the word; but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful

4) Others, like the seeds sown on good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop—some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times what was sown.”

Now I would like to magnify the scripture further more to us to understand it better.

1) seed along the path

2) sown on rocky places

3) seed sown among thorns

4) seed sown on good soil

Now I strongly believe that Jesus shared the Parable of Sower not for us to judge people but to analysis our life first and help other to come to place of being a good soil.

Everything eventually boils down to one important key of our Christian walk to open the storehouse of his wisdom and knowledge and understanding.

”Are you abiding in HIM (Jesus)” ?

Let’s go, view and understand another scripture from Mathew 7:21-23

21 “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

22 Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?’

23 Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’

Getting back to what I mentioned earlier about the School of Prophest , Worship , Evangelism and series of courses and schools and seminars are all summed up in Mathew 7:21-22 - ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me (Jesus) on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?’

Now in this Scripture Jesus is mentioning about the operation of the prophetic and healing

and power ministry gifts.

Look at the answer what JESUS gives to them. Mathew 7:23 - Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'

Now here Jesus is emphasizing on KNOWING HIM !

So if you don't know him what is the ladder and success these courses and seminars in the long run????

Let me share something with you , very straight forward. I have met many people and counseled them. Some of them are believers for decades or 5-6 years. They have asked me a question, how you can hear voice of GOD and understand if its HIS voice or not.

Now Let's wear the specs of WORD of God and see it through eyes of his word and see what god is speaking.

John 10:14 - I am (Jesus) the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me.

Jesus knows his sheep and his sheep knows (recognize) him.

Definition of knowing - Possessing knowledge, information, or understanding.

Basic Bible English version say's John 10:14 I am the good keeper (Shepherd) ; I have knowledge of my sheep, and they have knowledge of me.

John 10:27 : My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me

Hebrew translation of Know is called " YADA" which literally means "know assuredly" or " made a self known"

What is the point visiting various schools and going through the courses in which you don't Yada " Know" Him or His voice ?

Let's go to another scripture.



Very famous and often use Mathew 25 - The Parable of the Ten Virgins

1 "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom.

2 Five of them were foolish, and five were wise.

3 For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them,

4 but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps.

5 As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept.

6 But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.'

7 Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps.

8 And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.'

9 But the wise answered, saying, 'Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.'

10 And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut.

11 Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.'

12 But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.'

13 Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

I have read this scripture many times and frankly speaking when I read this scripture for first time I told the LORD I want to be among the wise virgins.

Some years back, the Holy spirit revealed to me the deep revelation of this parable.

v2 - Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. and v3 say's For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them and vs.4 but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps.

Now let me explain to you how different oils are extracted in different ways, there is crushing of seeds and roots . Some oil (petroleum) require drilling of the ground. That's quite a hard work and crushing and pressing.

Later that oil goes to loads of refining and is finally purified. Once I had been to an oil refinery plant to meet my client and to do a site assessment. That was the first time I saw a boiler and a refinery plant. To refine the oil it goes through seven different rounds of purification in order to be approved by FDA and quality audits.

I could so well understand the parable of ten virgin then.. The five wise virgins labored in the spirit with the Lord and their lives got purified and refined and they had that extra virgin oil with them by fellowshiping with LORD and seeking him.

And the other Five foolish virgins were so busy in all the periphery actives and attending conferences , going through the distractions of serving and the carrying of the paraphernalia's of spirituality, sharpening and polishing on natural talents and texturising on oratory skills to communicate to the compelling desires of human soul. That they failed to go through the extracting of oil and to collect each drop of oil each day and filling the lamp.

Vs 12 : Bridegroom answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.'

Again KNOWING !

I like when a good friend of mine shared " We can know prime minister of INDIA, but PM of India doesn't know us"

Know that the same goes with KINGDOM of GOD . We will can know ABOUT JESUS but does he know us?

Now LET'S not mix this message with the Creator knowing his Creation. I am emphasizing on PERSONAL relation with JESUS, of a knowing him, of an intimacy that goes beyond mere

knowledge.

Let's ask ourselves where do we stand in HIM. All that is happening in our nation and nations of world (like this course and schools) I am not against it but I want to let you all, know HIM through a very PERSONAL relationship and we need to abide in him and he needs to abide in us.

3 ways to enter the presence of GOD.

- 1) Come in this presence with clean pure heart, hands and purged conscience
- 2) Complete Repentance and Renouncing of filthy and sinful life
- 3) Full assurance of faith

No Ministry, No Pastor, No prophet, No School or course will ever give you the complete understanding on the Word of God or build your connection with GOD. Only the Father can reveal Jesus to you. John:14:21 & 23

You and your own self can make and build the connection with GOD.

Time is very near, it will be mid night hour where you will hear the cry. No one knows when the son of God is coming again for his blameless and spotless bride.

All that the Bridegroom expects from us is to be rise up and trim the lamp.

Much love,



Aarty Naik

<http://biblestudy.co.in/>