



# Grace Fellowship of Morehead, KY

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## PLIT YOURSELF *Where You Belong!*

*Message preached on Sunday Morning, June 15, 2025*

3 John 2 – “Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.”

**QUESTION:** God’s greatest desire for each of us! Yup!

He had SUCH a desire to bless us and increase us and heal us...that He did something about it...

2 Peter 1:3,4

3 According as his divine power ***hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness***, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ***ye might be partakers of the divine nature***, having ***escaped the corruption that is in the world*** through ***lust***.

**THINK OF “lust”** – a forbidden desire, longing

**IN OTHER WORDS:** There is a corruption in this world from LUST.

Ephesians 1:3 – “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:”

**BELOVED:** That is good news.

I think sometimes when Pastor Thad is preaching and covering areas that we need to “clean up” or “deal with” that we view it as annoying or troublesome...even bad news.

**BELOVED:** There is a corruption that is automatic in our life, through lust, that Jesus has defeated, through His death, burial and resurrection that gives us ALL THINGS that pertains to life and godliness.

**HOWEVER:** Sometimes we get stuck in lust.

**Earlier this week**...I was talking with God about several things that have gone on around here that seem negative...enemy attacking.

As I always say, “having done all stand.” But make sure you do all. So, I asked God what’s up... I wasn’t thrilled with the answer: **He said**, “*Selfishness is seeping into the church.*”

***There are three ways I can take this:***

~ The church universal. The church around the world, in the U.S., etc.

And it has seeped into the church world...no doubt.

I don’t think that is what he was telling me.

~ Our local body of believers.

Seeping in doesn’t mean it is full-fledged, just that if you don’t seal the foundation, you will be flooded soon.

~ **LAST:** Me! Selfishness is seeping into me, your pastors...and I need to clog it up. God placed me as your man of God and if I have selfishness seeping in...y’all are going to end up following.

**THEREFORE:** This morning, I want us all to see this message as God speaking to your pastor and you all are just along for the ride.

If it speaks to you, too...cool.

**THE LORD SAID IT TO ME** like this, “When selfishness rises up, the blessings of God have a hard time sticking around!”

Selfishness is a barrier to your spiritual growth...it distances you from God.

***It is fundamentally at odds with the very nature of God.***

John 3:16 – “For God so loved...”

1 John 4:7,8

7 Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.

8 He that loveth not knoweth not God; ***for God is love.***

Mark 10:45 – “For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.”

**THE INTERESTING THING IS:** Our culture is embracing selfishness.

Everything in our culture is about embracing ME. Be good with who you are...we have to feel good about ourselves.

I was doing some searches on selfishness and I looked up ways selfishness manifests...and the first couple articles that popped up were articles supporting selfishness...taking care of yourself.

***Doing things for yourself.***

(participation trophies, make everyone feel good about themselves, you're okay, I'm okay...)

**YET:** Scripture tells us that selfishness is a destructive force that leads people AWAY from God's will for their lives.

**INSERT:** It is okay to take care of yourself...rest...exercise...eat right...but to what end? To the end of taking care of others!

If your end is so that you can have more...the Bible calls you a fool  
(Luke 12:20).

## What Does Selfishness Look Like?

**REMEMBER:** When it seeps in...it may not seem horrible, but when it isn't repaired...it will become dangerous.

- ~ Wanting to always be served or helped. Needy.
  - ~ Wanting to be noticed for serving. “Look at me.” Offended if they don't notice you.
  - ~ Afraid to “be yourself” (faking it), or unable to admit being wrong.
  - ~ Always prioritizing MY NEEDS over THY NEEDS.
  - ~ Not understanding others, how they operate...not even trying.
  - ~ Not grateful.
  - ~ It is never your fault.
  - ~ You spend more time taking than giving.
  - ~ Lack of giving or generosity...rarely give beyond what is comfortable.
  - ~ Prioritize your leisure over helping others.
  - ~ Manipulation (to get people to do things for you).
  - ~ Failure to celebrate the success of others.
  - ~ Don't listen...you talk, talk, talk (me, me, me).
- At best you spend the time that others are talking formulating your next story.

**UNDERSTAND:** The reason I give this list is for us to understand that there are many ways it can seep in...do any of these identify you...are there other areas that you could identify with?

**MY FAVORITE QUOTE:** (Zig Ziglar) – “You can have anything in life that you want, if you just help enough other people get what they want.”

***It is called sowing and reaping.***

I am convinced most ***people DO NOT BELIEVE IT.*** They just don't!

**THE GOLDEN RULE:** Most philosophies say it like this, “If you don’t want people to do bad things to you, don’t do bad things to them.”

God says, “And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise.” (Luke 6:31, Matthew 7:12).

You want it? Give it! Quit waiting for it!

Proverbs 11:24-26

24 There is that ***scattereth, and yet increaseth***; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it ***tendeth to poverty***.

25 The ***liberal soul shall be made fat***: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.

26 He that withholdeth corn, the people shall curse him: but blessing shall be upon the head of him that selleth it.

Philippians 2:3-4 (NASB)

3 Do nothing from ***selfishness or empty conceit***, but with humility ***consider one another as more important than yourselves***;

4 do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.

James 3:16 (NASB) – “For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and ***every evil thing***.”  
Hmmm...every evil thing! Every evil thing!

**CHARLES SPURGEON:** “Selfishness is as foreign to Christianity as darkness is to light.”

Genesis 4:1-6 (read it)

God accepted Abel’s offering...did NOT accept Cain’s.

**NOTICE:** Able gave the FIRST of his flock (tithe) and the BEST of his flock (seed)...God blessed him.

**NOTICE:** Cain gave in the process of time...basically, after a while...

He didn’t give the first or the best...he gave what was left over.

**BELOVED:** That is how many of us give of ourselves. Whatever we have left over...not our best, not much at all.

We save the best for ourselves.

(Perhaps talk with me asking God to show me some stuff...He gave me this)

1 John 4:20 – “If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?”

**HATETH?** Well, I don’t hate anyone, Pastor!

**DEFINED:** to love less

To take it a step further, the Greek word for “hateth” is MISEO. It is where we get our word MISER from.

A MISER is someone who is cheap, just doesn’t want to give, keeps all his stuff (money and other wise) for himself.

**IN OTHER WORDS:** If you say you LOVE God, but are holding things back from your brother...you are a liar.

**QUESTION:** What am I holding back from my brothers and sisters?

## Bill Johnson said something like this:

My love for God must be measurable by the way I value people..the way I treat people...it has to be measurable. It can’t just be a philosophy or doctrine, it has to be measurable. You can love people without loving God, but it is impossible to love God and NOT love people.

1 Corinthians 11:27-30

27 Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.

28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup.

29 For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, ***not discerning the Lord’s body***.

30 For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.

**“Not discerning”** – separate, withdraw, contend, judge

**BELOVED:** the Lord’s physical body and those around you are the same.

If you are not valuing those around you the same way as you would the Lord’s body...it is a problem!

Vs. 23 – **“I received”** – I receive the bread...but don’t receive those around you.

**THINK ABOUT IT:** There were those in the Corinthians church who were sick and dying...and they couldn’t figure out why!

They were walking by faith...they were doing everything they knew to do by faith...but why?

- ~ 1 Corinthians 10 – partaking of the bread together
- ~ 1 Corinthians 11 – the Lord’s supper, and His body
- ~ 1 Corinthians 12 – the gifts and the Body
- ~ 1 Corinthians 13 – the LOVE chapter

Do you think he was trying to give them the answer?

**BILL JOHNSON:** Was talking about someone coming up him, on the street, and asking him for money...he was good, “yep!” As he walked away the Holy Spirit gripped his heart and asked him, “Why did that person have to ask? Why did you not listen and give immediately.”

**BELOVED:** How many times are we so busy with our own lives that if someone asks, we will help, we will give, we will discern them...but otherwise we are consumed with our own lives.

- ~ We hear someone is moving, but we assume “they got it” unless they ask us. Why do they have to ask?
- ~ We know someone is believing for something, but we assume “they good” unless we get asked to help. Why do they have to ask?
- ~ If you need help, “just ask”.
- ~ What does it take to get you to give of your money, your time?

## Destroying Selfishness

Let’ me give you two simple things to put an end to selfishness in your life.

### 1.) **Hate it!**

Be broken hearted by it. If today’s message doesn’t get you...you are not getting it.

Declare war on it.

Colossians 3:5 (NASB) – “Therefore, treat the parts of your earthly body as dead to sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.”

James 4:7 – “Submit yourselves therefore to God. **Resist the devil**, and he will flee from you.”

2 Corinthians 10:5 – “Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;”

### 2.) **More Word!**

Be so full of Him...His Word...His thoughts...that you suffocate ANYTHING that is not of Him.

**ILLUSTRATION:** A glass with soap in it...it will keep bubbling up until you get rid of it all (the pranks at the beach with shampoo)...my favorite was is to just keep running clear water and soon the soap leaves and all you are left with is clean water.

**BELOVED:** It is impossible to spend TOO MUCH time with God and still have a selfishness problem.

John 3:30 (John the Baptist said this) – “He must increase, but I must decrease.”

The more you listen to Him...familiarize yourself with His Word...the more sensitive you become to His voice...the more sensitive you become to His voice...the more focused you become on His body!

## Conclusion

**BELOVED:** I have come too far in this walk with Christ to let anything stop me. I must do a better job at discerning the body of Christ.

To give to others.