

The Anatomy of Motives

Pastor Donna Shelton

We, as Christians, should want to live free of strongholds, offenses, judging, criticizing and condemning, and every other _____.

But _____?

We, as Christians, should have a great desire and passion to _____ and be spiritually mature.

But _____?

We, as Christians, should want to know God's Word and have it _____
"so that it pours out of us like water on any occasion.

But _____?

What is a MOTIVE?

- It is the _____ for a person's thought processes, words and actions.
 - An underlying, driving force...i.e. poverty, rejection, insecurity, (In the bad sense)
 - Motives often go _____ or un-acknowledged because we don't focus on them
- We must ask ourselves deeper, heart-probing questions..."Why did I _____?"

Most of the time, our motives are plain and recognizable to everyone else but us. That is why we need each other... to have close relationships where we can "speak the truth in love" with no motive but to help and encourage and have the same done to us.

Ps 19:12, 14 David prayed...

12 Who can understand his errors? Cleanse me from **secret faults**.

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer. (NKJ)

When Nathan the prophet told David the story of a man who had everything but stole the one precious lamb from a poor man, David saw clearly how wrong that was and was furious. What he didn't see, however, was that he was himself the man who was the thief. It was exposed to him by Nathan, who had the relationship with David to be able to speak that truth into his life.

* _____ we do is motivated by _____.*

There are only two kinds of motives: _____ or _____ ... my will or His will...

1. **SELF-ISH**: self-centered; concerned _____ with one's own desires, needs, or interests
ALL _____ . Isaiah 14:13 Lucifer..."I WILL" five times

- 526 "self-words" in the dictionary...., self-abasement, self-absorbed, self-betterment, self-concern, self-defense, self-educate, all the way to self- self-promotion, self-questioning, self-will
- We are supposed to be concerned with our desires, needs and interests in order to be _____ of the gifts, abilities and the life that God has granted us.
- When we realize that we have made a line that puts us and what _____ on one side and everyone else on the other side of that line that we know there is an ungodly reason and driving force in operation in our lives...wrong motives.
- 2. **SELF-LESS**: Having no concern for oneself, unselfish, generous, magnanimous- benevolent, considerate, great hearted...ALL OUTWARD...Jesus..."Not my will, but Yours be done.

John 5:30 (NKJ) "I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me."

John 6:38 (NKJ) "For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.

Luke 22:42 (NKJ) "Saying, "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done."

Ephesians 6:6 (NKJ) "not with eye service, as men-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart,"

Truth

*I desire truth in the inward parts, not just on the surface, but in the deepest recesses of your heart.
The truth can't be found by casual thought and prayer for none but the Spirit knows what is hidden there.
I can't expose to the light of day something you want revealed as you're on your way
You must stop completely and seek My Face and be willing to look as I expose each place.*

*You will weep and cry and mourn over that sin as by My Spirit, I mold you again.
 I am the Potter, you are the clay I won't let you be hardened to be thrown away.
 The time has come and is now says the Lord I'll no longer share My temple with the god of this world.
 I'll put up no longer with shabbiness and strife I'm demanding of you a pure and holy life.
 Our times of fellowship and intimacy is a secret history no one else can see
 The fruit of these times will be seen in you in your quiet spirit, strong and true.
 No storm or trial will blow you away, no circumstance or things men say
 My quiet confidence will keep you from harm as you stay in the shelter of My loving arm.*
 ©6/15/83

**We must look _____ at our life and how we are living it for the underlying motives that are "the reasons why"... and submit them to God. Only He can purify our motives, when and if we submit them to Him saying as Jesus did...
 "not _____ but _____.**

In my morning devotions, I saw the Lord in a room with 3 arches and He was standing in the middle, very intensely, slowly taking in everything. The first thing I noticed was His eyes.... I grabbed my pen and began to write...

*Oh, the beauty of Christ's face, impassioned love and righteousness
 Behold, His eyes of fire that see the very best and worst of me
 As He unfolds my inward parts, the hidden chambers of my heart
 All exposed in trembling fear, I cried, "Unclean, unclean in here!"
 Ugly sin, guilt, shame, and pride, did scurry for a place to hide
 But pinned beneath His piercing gaze, no excuse or blame could raise
 Then He turned His attention around to hideous things crawling on the ground
 Seldom coming to light of day, content in darkness and shadow to stay
 The "Light of God" said, "Come out here now! Before shining Truth you'll surely bow
 Then cringing, squinting, crawling came, motives of every shape and name
 "It's you," said the Lord, "I've come to find, not just this sin you've left behind."
 My child has cried with many tears and I've come to bring deliverance here
 I'm here to cleanse this heart and soul, each motive bring under My control
 Now in obedience you must stand and be thoroughly examined by My hand
 Then I'll dissolve you by My blood, it is a death, but its for good
 And in the place where you did reign, motives pure will now proclaim
 The wonder of a selfless life, lived in the power of Jesus Christ
 Donna Shelton 1/11/93*

Phil 2:1-16

*1 Is there any such thing as Christians cheering each other up? Do you love me enough to want to help me? Does it mean anything to you that we are brothers in the Lord, sharing the same Spirit? Are your hearts tender and sympathetic at all?
 2 Then make me truly happy by loving each other and agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, working together with one heart and mind and purpose.
 3 **Don't be selfish; don't live to make a good impression on others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourself.**
 4 **Don't just think about your own affairs, but be interested in others, too, and in what they are doing.**
 5 Your attitude (motive) should be the kind that was shown us by Jesus Christ, 6 who, though he was God, did not demand and cling to his rights as God, 7 but laid aside his mighty power and glory, taking the disguise of a slave and becoming like men.
 8 And he humbled himself even further, going so far as actually to die a criminal's death on a cross. 9 Yet it was because of this that God raised him up to the heights of heaven and gave him a name which is above every other name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.
 12 Dearest friends, when I was there with you, you were always so careful to follow my instructions. And now that I am away you must be even more careful to do the good things that result from being saved, obeying God with deep reverence, shrinking back from all that might displease him.
 13 **For God is at work within you, helping you want to obey him, and then helping you do what he wants.**
 14 In everything you do, stay away from complaining and arguing 15 so that no one can speak a word of blame against you. **You are to live clean, innocent lives as children of God in a dark world full of people who are crooked and stubborn. Shine out among them like beacon lights, 16 holding out to them the Word of Life.**
 Then when Christ returns, how glad I will be that my work among you was so worthwhile. (TLB)*