

# **How to Conduct Yourself in the House of God**

**Heavenly Father, We thank you very much for this time to get together and look back at all the things you've done and look at what your scriptures have to say about what you're are putting us through. So we ask for great wisdom and understanding and how to apply your scriptures to the things we are learning and the faith and ability to endure all the things you're causing to get us into that 1<sup>st</sup> and blessed resurrection, which is our goal. We ask these things in Christ's Name. Amen**

WELCOME BACK EVERYBODY. We are in our Sunday Night Study.

I have bounced around some topics, but always come back to these practical application themes, which seems the work the LORD has given for me to do. The one that has been on my mind a lot recently is: This idea of how to conduct yourself in the House of GOD.

Looking back at the last 7-8 years of being around the fellowship, seeing people come and go and the things that have happened, We've had a lot of experiences, so have tried to distill down what we've learned into some 'Key Principles'.

The kind of things I wish I would have known when I first came in and someone had sat me down and said, 'listen'. This is the Body of Christ; you are in the Temple of GOD. Let me tell you what you are supposed to do and not do. Right? Because sometimes we just don't know what we don't know.

The intent of the study is to benefit all of us and ideally for that new person that comes in thinking "I am getting a hold of the milk doctrines" and starting to think we have the truth and wants to spend time with us.

## **What do I do now that am here ...how does it work?**

The 1st verse I want to talk about is here:

[\(Ecc 5:1 ESV\) Guard your steps when you go to the house of God. To draw near to listen is better than to offer the sacrifice of fools, for they do not know that they are doing evil.](#)

[\(Ecc 5:2 ESV\) Be not rash with your mouth, nor let your heart be hasty to utter a word before God, for God is in heaven and you are on earth. Therefore let your words be few.](#)

Looking at physical examples [the Rom 1:20 principle], Go back to the time when the world built St. Peters' Basilica, the huge church that is in Rome in the Vatican City. The reason they built it so big and so tall was they wanted to instill a sense of awe in the people that came into what they thought was the house of God.

When you walk into a place like that, you immediately know innately: "Be quiet". No one has to tell you. You just get it, that this is somewhere you are to be quiet, because you are just in awe as to just the presence and the size of everything. We should have that same sense when we come to the house of GOD. GOD dwells in HIS people and HE says; 'When two or three gather together, there I am also'. So when we are gathered together, know that this IS the House of GOD. We should have that same reverence and respect as the people in the world that walk into a physical temple or physical church and know; this is a place of respect.

One of the biggest things, especially when you are new is, you will save yourself a lot of trouble by listening a lot more than you talk. Because you just don't know what you don't know...If you're starting to realize that: 'I thought hell was burning forever, now I realize, it's not... I thought tithing was 10%, now it's not'. Well how many things else did you not know? So before we are rash with our mouth, be quick to listen in The House of GOD and learn from those whom have been here before you and have been through all of these things. Learn to listen. But we are all naturally hasty; a lot of us love to hear ourselves talk. Well that's not the right spirit to have and The LORD will deal with that.

This is a witness:

[\(Jas 1:19 ESV\) Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger;](#)

[\(Jas 1:20 ESV\) for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.](#)

We are very often unjustifiably angry. We are angry about things we shouldn't be angry about and then the things we should be angry about, we're not. We tend to do the opposite. So when you're coming in, especially to the Body of Christ, you're hearing things you have never heard before. Some of the things are going to offend you. You may even think: 'How can they think that' or 'That's blasphemy' or 'how can they'. Hold on a minute. Slow down. Don't get angry. Let us walk you through it, because the flesh is a powerful thing. It can run you over with emotions and it will blind you from seeing that the Spirit is what makes sense, once you have the spirit of GOD. But when you are walking in the flesh, it's all going to appear as complete foolishness to you. So once you realize that's how your flesh works, be cautious of it. Let the emotions pass. Don't act on them as soon as a thought comes into your head. You don't have to say it, but that's a very natural inclination for a lot of people.

These verses reflect the Spirit we ought to have at all times, but especially when we are new and don't know much:

(Mat 18:3 KJV) And said, Verily I say unto you, except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

(Mat 18:4 KJV) Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

And I've seen a lot of people come and go in this fellowship and the ones who have stayed around are the ones who realized they don't know anything. Where they say; 'Look, everything I've done in the last couple years is a big pile of dung and I realize I'm starting over in a lot of ways.' When seeing that kind of spirit we can say; 'Ok, we can work with them'. But when you get 'puffed up' and 'haughty', 'I know better than you', 'Who do you think you are', despising youth, 'Who are you people?', then you are not going to go anywhere. It is just time for more trials and fire. You're just not ready yet.

## HOW TO ORGANIZE

Paul is writing to Timothy and giving him instructions on how to deal with the churches and how properly organize themselves:

(1Ti 3:14 NKJV) These things I write to you, though I hope to come to you shortly;

(1Ti 3:15 NKJV) but if I am delayed, I write **so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God**, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

So he's saying "I am telling you how to conduct yourselves when you are assembling together with the body of Christ within your own heart and mind. You should rule your own body and own mind, even when no one's around you still need to conduct ourselves properly". And to outline key points that Paul points out with some that overlap between 1st Timothy and Titus, He tells Timothy the qualifications for who can be a Bishop or an Elder, which is the same thing, the Overseers. Also for the Deacons who were assistants to the Elders that did a lot of great work, who helped Elders accomplish what they were doing. There is a whole teaching on leaders in scripture that you can study and read what those qualifications are, and then you know how to recognize those among us that are doing those functions and how to properly relate to them.

Then there is a section in Titus concerning 'stopping the mouths of those who are insubordinate and disobedient'. This has happened in our midst. People come in and they have attitudes, false doctrines, also are not teachable. All the rebellions that happen in the scriptures happen in our midst. Paul gives both Timothy and Titus instructions and says to; 'rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith and don't go astray'. Another study to reference is called 'Words Fitly Spoken" showing there is a time to be patient, gentle and bear with them. And there's a time, as Christ spoke to the Pharisees, to say; 'You brood of vipers' and turn over the tables in the temple, saying; 'we are not doing this here'. And so discern; when is that time for righteous anger and when is the time for patiently bearing with them.

Further Instruction:

(1Th 5:12 NKJV) And we urge you, brethren, **to recognize those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you,**

(1Th 5:13 NKJV) and **to esteem them very highly in love** for their work's sake. Be at peace among yourselves.

(1Th 5:14 NKJV) Now we exhort you, brethren, warn those who are unruly, comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient with all.

When first coming out of Babylon, you've have had bad experiences. You have either experienced a lot of lasciviousness and people not properly judging and setting things in order. There have been experienced people who have tried to rule over you, being Pharisees, who lay undue burdens upon you. You may have had leaders who are not teachable, not easily entreated and those who say; 'Who are you to correct me or try to point something out to me?'. When you are coming out of the Babylonian system, we understand you have baggage. But just because you've had a bad experience doesn't mean we throw off all forms of structured leadership and organization. That's not the biblical pattern. Christ says; 'The greatest among you must be the servant to all'.

Clearly there are those whose job is to lead, teach, shepherd and admonish to do those functions. But it is very, very different from what you're used to in the Babylonian churches you may have experienced. So if you're new, withhold judgment, don't freak out when we discuss deacons, elders, disciples, leaders, teachers, and functions of women, etc. It's different here, which is very biblical and sound. But you have to hear us out and do the studies before you quickly pass any judgment. GOD is not an author of confusion. You can see by talking to the people that have been here for a decade or more that the LORD has given us to figure out how to do these things and it's bearing some good fruit.

A very important story in the Old Testament is: 'The rebellion of Korah'

(Num 16:3 ESV) They assembled themselves together against Moses and against Aaron and said to them, "You have gone too far! For all in the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the LORD is among them. **Why then do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the LORD?"**

Korah's accusation was that Moses and Aaron, [rather than viewing them as servants to the flock to help them follow GOD's obedience and avoid trouble], they viewed it as; 'Why are you so puffed up and trying to rule over me'? So they didn't see the benefit of leadership in their midst and the consequences of not having it. There is a study on 'Trying the Spirits' on Numbers 16, which outlines what happens to those that fell into that rebellion of Korah [link below].

The Proper Attitude:

(2Co 1:24 ESV) Not that we lord it [no dominion over] over your faith, but we work with you for your joy, for you stand firm in your faith.

The whole idea is that a leader, a teacher and everyone in this Body is going to be a leader or a teacher to somebody whether it is in your house, in your family, with your friends, or when you're doing evangelism. You're not excluded for leadership just because that's not your function in the fellowship. In the same way, you cannot lord it over someone to whom you preach the gospel. You have to give them the truth, and then see if they're receiving it. If they're not, sometimes it's a time for rebuke and there are sometimes you have to say 'I can't talk to you anymore' and we have to separate for a while until the LORD brings you some trials, then you go and figure this out. That's the same way the Body of Christ operates.

This is the Key verse here. If it doesn't make sense to you and you can't understand how there can possibly be good organization and leadership without it being corrupted by men, then remember these verses:

[\(1Jn 5:2 NKJV\) By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments.](#)

[\(1Jn 5:3 NKJV\) For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome \[grievous\].](#)

Christ says; 'My yoke is easy and my burden is light'. So when we are following the pattern of the Scripture and we organize ourselves according to that, it won't be burdensome. It will actually relieve burdens and will make us function better and happier. If you see the most miserable children, they are the children who have no rules, no boundaries and no discipline and they are miserable because of it. And the happiest ones are those which are loved, well-disciplined and having some structure, order and some routine who are good, functioning, happy kids, who grow up to do better in life. And the same thing is true as GOD has given that to us as a physical example to teach us that spiritually speaking we need some degree of order, which is a blessing to us. If we didn't schedule Sunday night studies, we wouldn't know what time to show up. If someone didn't give a study, we wouldn't make the progress we needed to.

Now Korah wanted no distinction between the leaders and everyone or didn't want leaders at all. But James says:

[\(Jas 3:1 NKJV\) My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment.](#)

It's true the scriptures say; 'whom much is given much is required'. One of the first studies I did was, 'Ambassadors for Christ', so we realize no one comes to Christ willingly, we are all dragged. It is like a fish hook in the mouth, pulled in the boat against your will. That applies to each person in the fellowship. Anyone in leadership is dragged to their function. There are plenty of days that leaders say 'Let this cup pass, this is hard', 'I rather someone else do this'. Just realize that this spirit is within GOD's teachers, they are not saying 'Oh, Goody, I get to rule over people today'. It's more like; 'LORD I am doing what you are telling me for obedience, so that others can grow up and

live in their functions and do their job well to lighten the burden'. We are excited when GOD manifests people who can lead and lighten some of this burden.

Here is the link to The Rebellion of Korah because you are going to have this happen to you: The 'Rebellion of Korah' is, 'Who do you think you are to speak with such authority', then persecutions will come. No one in this fellowship is immune from this complex. Just so you will get it in a different context. This link will help you.

<http://tryingthespirits.com/2014-09/numbers-16-rebellion-of-korah>

A Key: Paul told Timothy, to help teach the Church how to conduct themselves. It is very timely now in the world, with the political upheaval and changing of powers.

1Ti 2:1 Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men,

1Ti 2:2 for kings and all who are in authority, **that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.**

So the reason to pray for our leaders and for all men is so we can be at peace. Not so that we can change the world, not so to get in political debates, arguments and change the laws. It's just saying; 'LORD I pray the President does a good job and passes laws so we can mind business and work quiet with our hands. And as much as you allow the government to stay out of our business, we would very much appreciate that. That's what we want, right? GOD's going to do what HE's going to do and we can't argue with him. That is a worthy prayer to pray.

Another key topic Paul talks about is the conduct of women in the church. You see abuses on both sides in Babylon. Sometimes you see it's incredibly oppressive and they have where; 'You shall never speak... I never want to see you open your mouth when you walk in here'. And then you see on the other side of the road, women up front leading the church, doing the teaching, the preaching, the speaking, and being in charge. Those are the two sides of a narrow way we don't want to fall into. So the specific advice that Paul gives is:

- Dress appropriately (1 Tim 2:9) Dressing appropriately and adorning yourself with godliness, not with this focus completely on things of the outward appearance.

- Learn in quietness [this is not the word 'silence']. You'll learn if you're new to our fellowship, we certainly do not forbid any of our women to speak. We have many wise and well-spoken women who contribute greatly to all the things that we do. But they have quiet spirits and they let the men do their jobs, they know their place and they do well. Also the Word says; **not to teach or have authority over men (1 Tim 2:11-12)**, which doesn't mean a woman won't come to a man in the proper way, to make it known maybe you did something you shouldn't. But they do it with their head covered, meaning they do it in subjection and in the proper manner. They are not trying to take over and do the function of the man.



Command in Titus:

- Older women should teach the younger women to love their husbands and children [phileo = AFFECTION] (Titus 2:4) So very important as the function in the church is the motherly, kind, gentle, encouraging spirit that everyone needs. The younger women, the children...everyone! There are woman in here, especially Bettie and Fannie, who are faithful to after every study, encourage me with a note saying warmly; 'you are doing a good job of faithfully feeding the flock' and they are good at showing their phileo love to their husband, the Body, and it's really encouraging for all.

G5362- philandros- affectionate, fond of

Here are two studies that go through in great detail of what the scriptures teach about the function of women, what it means to prophesy and how women are certainly permitted to prophesy, which is to speak unto edification, exhortation and comfort. So you'll see that on our e-mail list we see some great contributions from the women and you'll hear even on the post study discuss some great contributions, but you'll also see the spirit of quietness that's present as well. Read those studies, go through them, it will definitely help you understand before you pass judgment on all this. So study to show yourself approved.

<http://tryingthespirits.com/women-in-the-body/>

<http://www.iswasandwillbe.com/the-head-of-christ-is-god/>

The last point I'll make in 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy is an overall summary of what to stay focused on, how to keep the Church's focus:

2Ti 2:22 Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

2Ti 2:23 But avoid foolish and ignorant disputes, knowing that they generate strife.

So there are all kinds of just crazy, nonsensical things going on in the world right now that can get us distracted that are not scripturally based, which are just foolishness and we're not going to entertain those discussions in our midst. You will see us cut certain things off and at times ask to stop that from going on, as these types of things are not profitable, are vain and we are not going to have that here.

2Ti 2:24 And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but **be gentle to all, able to teach, patient,**

2Ti 2:25 **in humility correcting** those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, **so that they may know the truth,**

Take these verses and be able to apply them to your own life as you are dealing with others around you, as you are witnessing. Don't get dragged into stupid and foolish arguments. Don't argue with people. Have a gentle spirit, if they don't have a teachable spirit, leave them alone. Be able to teach, be able to reason with someone who is

different from arguing. For example, if there is a nice back and forth flow, when you're reasoning with someone, you're both making points and you are pulling up scriptures. Then that's productive. But if it descends to fruitless debate and the calling of names and nonsense [just like on TV] just walk away if it's not productive. A good spirited discussion can be very profitable, quarreling is not.

[2Ti 2:26](#) and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will.

If you want to know how to avoid getting frustrated with someone, realize that they can't help it, that they're blind, or in a trap, but just remember; 'forgive them Father, they know not what they do.' If you have an understanding that you've come to a place of; 'why can't they understand this', but the spirit is not in them, so it's going to be foolishness to them and they are not going to get it. We have to wait to see if GOD will perhaps grant them repentance. We know HE will in due time, but it may not be now. So if you're not seeing progress, leave them alone. They're not done yet, so go put them back in the oven. They will be done eventually.

We are commanded to receive the weak in the faith. We are also commanded to help meet people where they are, become all things to all men. Bear with all these different infirmities, but there are some boundaries and some limits.

[\(Rom 14:1 KJV\)](#) Him that is weak in the faith receive ye, but not to doubtful disputations.

Those words are better translated not to argue about the mature discernment of the word. So we will entertain questions and we'll answer you those things. But once we give you two answers and you're not listening, when we give you some studies and you're not reading them, the discussions are over. We're not going to keep doing this, publically. And the old man in you in the flesh gets mad and says; 'Who are you to end this discussion?', 'Who are you to stop this?' Well, we're the Body of Christ and there are appointed leaders who are doing what our job is for us to do. We're supposed to steward the House of GOD well. This is doubtful disputations, so sorry we're not going to go on anymore. And you should do the same thing in your life, as you come across people who do not respect the authority of the Scriptures, don't bear with that weakness to continue arguing about the mature discernment of the word. Don't let them despise you.

[\(Rom 15:1 KJV\)](#) We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves.

So that's really important, as you're going along with this to be patient, be gentle, and be kind. Understand how hard it is to get these issues figured out. This is a hard transition. Remember what you felt like when you first came into this. Don't expect people to be grownups in 5 minutes; it doesn't matter if you're 15, 30, 50 or 70; when these truths are new to you...it's new to you. Don't get an attitude and say; 'you've been here this long, you should understand this by now'. It takes time, right? There is the time, according to Hebrews 5, where you will have to take someone aside and say; 'Look, it's time you



ought to be teachers, but I have to teach you again the milk doctrines, because you are not making progress.' That time comes, but it's after a lot of patience and bearing with them. It's not after they've been here a week and you start dropping that on them. That's not productive.

A more detailed study on 'Bearing with the Weak':

<http://www.iswasandwillbe.com/bearing-the-infirmities-of-the-weak-study/>

A lot of it has to do with being quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger, and not judging before the time. There needs to be a lot of 'bearing with' and not using your liberties in Christ in causing another brother to stumble. Be patient with that.

Another topic that I have been thinking a lot about concerns:

(1Co 11:20 NKJV) Therefore when you come together in one place, it is not to eat the Lord's Supper.

(1Co 11:21 NKJV) For in eating, each one takes his own supper ahead of others; and one is hungry and another is drunk.

So the Church in Corinth is coming and gathering together. They are having the Lord's Supper, which we know is really about [we're having the LORD'S Supper right now], breaking HIS bread, we're drinking the Blood and we're studying the Scriptures, also learning what the Word has to say. That's what it is, much more so than a physical meal. But what's happening is that some people are coming, also coming hungry and they are not getting fed. And someone else is showing up and their getting drunk. They are jumping in the front of the line and they are eating up all the food in the buffet before anyone behind them in the line can come get it. This is the problem they're having.

(1Co 11:22 NKJV) What! Do you not have houses to eat and drink in? Or do you despise the church of God and shame those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you in this? I do not praise you.

What Paul is really getting at is there are some people among us that the LORD's given a lot. He gives you the ability that you can read the scriptures and you can understand. He's given you the diligence to go and read our studies and you can come here and talk for an hour of all the things you know and all the things you understand. Well, good for you. You can do that at home. Some people come and they can't do that, right? This is where they are coming to get fed. They are coming to ask questions, they don't have the abilities you have. Be very careful to defer to those that are hungry, who are weaker. So don't come in and jump to the front of the line because you can and despise your weaker brother.

(1Co 11:27 NKJV) Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.

Do you think Paul is serious about this admonition? He's saying you are guilty of the body and blood of the LORD if you in an unworthy manner come together to do this study in fellowship.

(1Co 11:28 NKJV) But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup.

(1Co 11:29 NKJV) For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

If you discern the body and know these other people are members of your body, you're going to have great consideration for your little toe, you know for those more unsightly things you can't quite see, but they are really important, so don't despise those.

This is a verse that really struck me:

(1Co 11:30 NKJV) For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep.

Because of how they are gathering together in a disorderly manner and not respecting the weaker brethren, it's leading to sickness, weakness and sleep.

(1Co 11:31 NKJV) For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged.

(1Co 11:32 NKJV) But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world.

(1Co 11:33 NKJV) Therefore, my brethren, when you come together to eat, wait for one another.

Defer to one another. Give other people a chance. Encourage them to say something.

(1Co 11:34 NKJV) But if anyone is hungry, let him eat at home, lest you come together for judgment. And the rest I will set in order when I come.

So eating at home is a lot more than studying by yourself. You can fellowship when you are by yourself, you can call others, you can get counsel, and you can write emails. You can utilize all those means as much as you can so when you come together: 1. You have something to share and 2. You can have patience because you've been fed, so you can wait for others. It's hard to wait in the buffet line when you're starving, right? You need something to eat.

If GOD has put you in a circumstance where you really cannot do it on your own, then you're the one that it is for and we'll have mercy and tend to your needs. But that should be a temporary thing, so you should learn from that to strengthen, grow and try to do as much as you can on your own.

(2Th 3:10 KJV) For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.

So physically speaking it is true, if you're not willing to go out to work then you shouldn't eat. If you can't work or genuinely are 'a widow' or can't do it, then the LORD provides means for you to be taken care of and there's a lot of mercy there. His admonition is for those who can work and choose not to. We know GOD is working all things, but it is still a spirit that has to be cast out.

The same thing is true if you want to eat, spiritually speaking. When you are a little baby, the parents literally spoon feed you for a while, the older you are and more you grow, the parents eventually expect the kid to hold his own spoon. Then eventually he should be getting his own food. Eventually he should be making his own food. Eventually he should be buying the food, bringing it home, cooking it and serving it to the parents, also to say thank you for all the times he was fed. So just recognize that we should always be endeavoring to feed ourselves as much as we can. But it sure is nice to show up to a study and have someone else cook the food and have a nice meal together. Believe me, sometimes I hop on to the other studies and say "thank you Steve or Tony or Mike for cooking dinner, I did not want to cook tonight". And it's nice.

This complements well with what Paul was telling the Corinthians; actually about the laws on how they were to conduct the harvest in the land of Israel:

(Lev 19:9 NKJV) 'When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not wholly reap the corners of your field, nor shall you gather the gleanings of your harvest.

What this means is, they would send the reapers out to reap and with the first pass they would miss the corners and hard things to get at. HE would say; 'That's fine, leave it'. You're supposed to leave that for the poor.

(Lev 19:10 NKJV) And you shall not glean your vineyard, nor shall you gather every grape of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the poor and the stranger: I am the LORD your God.

(Lev 23:22 NKJV) 'When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not wholly reap the corners of your field when you reap, **nor shall you gather any gleanings from your harvest.** You shall leave them for the poor and for the stranger: I am the LORD your God.

It's the same thing when you come to the study and you realize; 'wow there's 10 more verses that talk about this', pick 2 or 3, let someone else have the other 5 or 6. Don't go take everything out of the field that leaves nothing for the poor to come along behind you and then they can say; 'oh, I can share this'. When I do studies my intent is not to be exhaustive, as I could have put many more verses, but the goal is to share. Because I want other people to say; 'I found this...I can share this'. Good, because then everyone can participate, and everyone gets fed.

(Rth 2:2 ESV) And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, "Let me go to the field and **glean** among the ears of grain after him in whose sight I shall find favor." And she said to her, "Go, my daughter."

(Rth 2:3 ESV) So she set out and went and gleaned in the field after the reapers, and she happened to come to the part of the field belonging to Boaz, who was of the clan of Elimelech.

This speaks of how Boaz heard of Ruth's faithfulness, and how she was good to Naomi, so eventually he shows mercy to her and tells the reapers; 'Leave some extra grain for her, just purposely don't pick it up. Let her have it.' Eventually he does more and more for her and shows her great kindness for that. The key about Ruth was her attitude. She was humble, grateful, and happy to pick up the leftovers over there. She didn't have this entitlement, demanding mentality. She was just glad to be in the house and to have whatever she could have.

Christ has a 3<sup>rd</sup> witness to this:

(Mat 15:22 ESV) And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, "**Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon.**"

(Mat 15:23 ESV) But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, "**Send her away, for she is crying out after us.**"

(Mat 15:24 ESV) He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."

(Mat 15:25 ESV) **But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me."**

(Mat 15:26 ESV) And he answered, "It is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs."

It sounds cruel and really harsh.

(Mat 15:27 ESV) She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table."

He saw humility in her response.

(Mat 15:28 ESV) Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.

Christ was very wise and shrewd. He knew how to discern what was in another's heart. So through that response He gave her, He was going to find out exactly what she thought. Is she going to give him a whole bunch of attitude or was she going to humble herself? But she humbled herself and got a healing. So as we are learning to be wise and discerning, there are times the LORD will give you a way to see where someone's heart really is. If you want to be fed, then you'll have that humble heart; 'Just let me have the crumbs', 'Just let me have that little bit'. Then He'll turn around and heal you and give you so much more than you ever expected when you have the right attitude.

The last thing to be covered here is: Inside of the Body of Christ: How do you confess your sin?

Everyone's heard of the catholic form of confession where you go to the priest and list off every single sin you have ever done. And some folks think, if you sin you have to always confess it to everyone, if it's not a public confession, it's not a complete confession. Both of those are off of the narrow way.

**(Jas 5:13 NKJV) Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing psalms.**

**(Jas 5:14 NKJV) Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.**

Why do you call for the elders when you're sick?

Why do you call a doctor? Is it when you've been in a car accident and need brain surgery? You need someone who is trained or skilled in that particular issue who will be able to help you. In Leviticus they used the priests to deal with someone who had leprosy, which was the most dreaded disease and was incurable back then, because they knew how to detect it, how to discern it. You don't want to throw someone who doesn't have leprosy out of the camp over a sore, which would be horrible to be outcast with no leprosy. The same thing as when you don't want to let someone stay that does have leprosy. 'Oh that's just a sore', 'No. That's leprosy' and it will affect the whole camp. But it takes a lot of discernment to see that. So when you're really sick and really struggling, it's good to go to the Elders who have the oil which is the Spirit of GOD and the Word of the LORD, who can anoint you.

**(Jas 5:15 NKJV) And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.**

Do you say 'do I need a brain surgeon'? So, just as the problems escalate you'll know by asking yourself; 'Can my brothers and sisters deal with this?' or 'Do I have to go to 'Moses'?', so to speak. Think: Do I have to move up the chain to find that higher level of skill to deal with whatever it is. Don't be afraid to ask your brothers and sisters for help. But also be discerning of when you get in over your head and don't be afraid to call in more help. I do the same thing at times, some things I can handle myself, some things I can call one person. Sometimes I have to call all the Elders together. But I don't want to call all the Elders together for one little thing. That's not right, so ask for and use discernment.

**(Jas 5:16 NKJV) Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.**

The Word doesn't say; 'Confess your trespasses to the entire congregation'. It says; 'to one another', and here is the concept in the scriptures:

**(1Pe 4:8 NKJV) And above all things have fervent love for one another, for love will cover a multitude of sins.**

When you love your brother, you want to help cover his sin. These things are embarrassing a lot of times and not things you want everyone to know. So it's just wise and discerning to keep it quiet, to involve as few people to know as possible and let's then deal with it. The same thing happened with Noah when one of his sons wanted to laugh at him and mock him for being drunk and falling asleep naked. But Shem and Japheth took a garment, and laid it upon both their shoulders, and went backward, and covered the nakedness of their father; their faces were backward, and they saw not their father's nakedness. Our attitude should be just that we want to help minimize embarrassment, keep 'it' quiet and bring in as few people as possible to help heal the issue.

Now, if certain things are appropriate and wanted to be shared with everyone, that's perfectly fine, but don't be under compulsion to do that. Be discerning what you share, stop and think; 'is this beneficial for everyone to hear'? Can they really offer me help? Is this really something good to put out publically or more of a one on one issue? So when you stop and think a minute, usually the LORD will prick your conscience or if you call someone you trust to get some counsel to discern what the time is and how to do it.

So I am sure there are a lot more things we could cover. But these basic principles will take someone new and all of us a long way in giving us some basic guidance of how to conduct ourselves in the House of GOD, plus how to have that right spirit. When you do have that right spirit, it will lead you to listen, ask questions, seek wise council and study it for yourself, then you will find the answers you don't have right now. So when you are quick to listen and slow to speak, things go much better and much easier. Rashness and hastiness are not pleasant things to have. So if anyone wants to add or contribute, just jump out and ask.

Mitch: Thank you all for coming see you next time....

Good Night