

Avoiding the PITFALLS of incomplete gospels

15TH JANUARY 2023

Remember 4 things

- Gospel of Insurance
- Gospel of Inspiration
- Gospel of Information
- Gospel of Interaction

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son and whoever believes in Him will not perish but have <u>eternal life</u>

JOHN 3:16

Gospel of Insurance

- The "Insurance policy" gospel.
- The pitfall of passivity.

<u>And this is eternal life</u> that they may <u>know</u> <u>you</u>, the only true God and Jesus Christ whom you have sent

JOHN 17:3

Gospel of Inspiration

- The hyper spirituality gospel
- The pitfall of emotional spirituality

Gospel of Information

- Nothing else but the Word
- The pitfall of spiritual pride and fruitlessness

The Gospel of Interaction

THE RELATIONSHIP AND LOVE GOSPEL – TO KNOW GOD

Interacting with God

IS IT POSSIBLE?

Jesus interacts with God

Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed

Mark 1:35

Not just praying but ABIDING...

⁵ "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; <u>apart from</u> <u>me you can do nothing</u>. ⁶ If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.

The Holy Trinity "MOVE IN" with us

"Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and <u>we will come to them and</u> <u>make our home with them</u>"

John 14:3

God's Spirit is WITH us and IN us

The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.

John 14:17

Our FRUITFULNESS depends on it

Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, ² but whose delight is in the law of the LORD, and who meditates on his law day and night. ³ That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither— whatever they do prospers. Psalm 1:1-3

Continuously in contact with God?

- "Pray without ceasing" (1 Thes 5:17)
- "He meditates on His law day and night" (Joshua 1:8)
- "I lie awake thinking of you.." (Psalm 63:6)
- "I have set the Lord continually before me" (Psalm 16:8)

Wholeheartedly loving God?

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

Deut 6:5

Spiritual Training (Rootedness & Resilience)

- Training of the mind to be consciousness of God
- Training of our will to submit to His will
- To consciously "Lean in and Live out" (LILO)
- Feeling is a by product of our "thinking and willing"

Outcome of Spiritual Training

- RESONANCE
- REGULATION (OSCILLATION)

Spirituality is the measure of a heart drawn towards God spelled LOVE

BROTHER LAWRENCE

Guardrails for practicing interaction

