

May 3, 2015

TEACHING, PREACHING, AND HEALING

Matthew 4:23-25

Think of every experience of healing as a *little resurrection*. The healing of every scratch, bruise, or blemish; of every infection, sickness, or disease; of every brokenness, infirmity, or impairment...think of the regeneration of cells after a wound as a sign of the power of the Resurrection. All of these signs of sickness or hurt or pain are like signs of death. And realize, then, that there is so much more healing in this world than there is death that we have reason to rejoice. Without the healing power built into our bodies by the grace of God; and without the remedies discovered and developed by human ingenuity and the inspiration of our innate desire for life, every little hurt would only worsen, and death would be just rampant. But we can work with God to be renewed and to bring renewal to others by the blessing of Christ who is the Resurrection and the Life!

Healing power (the little resurrection) is built into the body. And since the Church is the Body of Christ, and since we are the Church, then we are the Resurrection and the Life! It is a built-in sort of thing. *"I am the Resurrection and the Life, whoever believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die!"* (John 11:25-26)

Jesus healed everyone brought to Him. And even today, God offers the same blessing to everyone we have brought to Him. You have been brought to Christ. And Christ's words are the words of life. (John 6:68) Christ still teaches and preaches the word – remember the Church is the Body of Christ, and the teaching and preaching of the Church is the Life... the life-giving remedy; the love-offering, fruit-bearing, truth-telling blessing that the world truly needs.

Jesus is the sun and we are His rays. He is the fire and we are its heat. He is the power and we, the Churches, are His outlets. And to believe is to plug in. Jesus said, *"I am the Resurrection and the Life, whoever believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die!"* (John 11:25-26) To believe is to plug in. To plug in is to be connected. To be faithful to Christ is to be connected to His Body, and the Church is the Body of Christ. we need to stay connected to the Church!

But...in the world, there is a tragic dis-connect! We become disconnected from the truth and begin to believe in a lie. We become disconnected from the words of life and forget that we have something to say. And we become disconnected from the Resurrection power and our light begins to dim. The world needs re-connecting.

It's a built-in sort of thing. Built in to the Body of Christ. Built in to the church! Everyone needs connections. By staying connected, we not only build up the Body of Christ, but the power will continue to flow, and we will bring light and life to the world around us, through the teaching, preaching, and healing of the Church, of the Body of Christ!

Let your light shine!