



Restored Hope Network™

"And such were some of you..."

The Hope Update

JOHN 8:32, 36

October 2013

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Monthly Devotion

By Robert Gagnon

Giving Our Inner Person a Bath

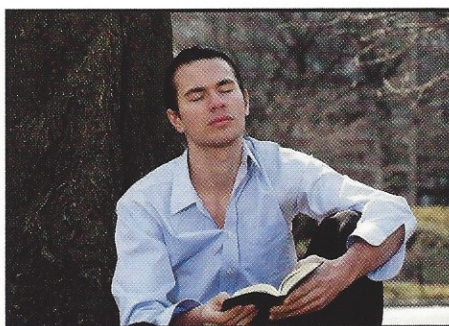
In Mark 7:1-23 Jesus reacts to criticism from the Pharisees about Jesus' disciples eating with unwashed, impure hands (7:2-3, 5). Although there are no literal Pharisees today with these precise ritual scruples, we do encounter—sometimes in ourselves—a religiosity that emphasizes superficial observances of the faith.

In his response Jesus stressed two things. First, he criticized his followers' critics for emphasizing human interpretations at the expense of Scripture. They "invalidate the word of God" and "set aside ... the commandment of God" for the purpose of upholding "the tradition of humans" (7:8-9, 13). In the area of sexual ethics today there are many substituting the commands of Scripture for their own false interpretations of God's will.

Second, Jesus stressed that it was not so much the food that people ingested with unwashed hands that posed a threat to one's purity before God as the carrying out of desires "from within, out of the

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Hope Happening



Call to Prayer!

October 17th – November 25th

Surveying the information inundating us—from childrens' TV programming, news, on to legal action and harassment of compassionate and truthful Christians—it is clear that this is a time for prayer. It is dark and getting darker. We need Someone much greater to step in to produce a turning from what is worthless to what is worthy, particularly in the areas of sexuality and gender. Together we can do something profound that will have a far-reaching effect—pray!

We need a powerful move of God propelling goodness, reigniting truth, and energizing faith in these areas. It is time not just to hold back darkness, but to assail it in the spiritual realms. Will you join us?

Anne Paulk

Executive Director



Our new network is just over a year and a half old and now has an organizational framework, a solid theological basis and a body of existing ministries that is dynamic and growing.

At this point in time, the Lord has blessed us with 26 member ministries, 7 strong and active board members, and brand new affiliation opportunities for pastors and counselors. Our Vimeo and Youtube channels have had over 17,000 views and our Facebook page has reached well over 900,000 people all over the world with hope for overcoming homosexuality and other sexual and relational issues in Jesus Christ.

We are delighted that FamilyTalk, Focus on the Family, Joyce Meyers Ministries, and Daystar TV care for and send to us hurting men and women for whom to provide care. Also, Christian defenders of the faith are finding our information useful as they reference it on their websites.

We have much to be thankful for and are energized to move forward in the Lord's wisdom and strength. *Join us in specific topics and prayer requests, contact anne@restoredhopenetwork.org*



Giving Our Inner Person a Bath

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heart" to do what God expressly forbids (7:14-23). Three of the vices that Jesus cited as instances of body-defiling desires were sexual in nature: "kinds of sexual



immorality," including "adulterous acts" and "licentiousness," i.e., lack of sexual self-restraint (7:21-22).

Jesus wants all of each of us. He wants to change us from inside out. That includes our sexual lives. He doesn't want us to "play church" by supplanting core values in Scripture with superficial human traditions. Let us covenant to lead lives of sexual purity and stop playing games with God.

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Ministry of the Month

Outpost Ministries of Minneapolis

Outpost was formed over 30 years ago to meet the needs of men and women making the decision to break away from gay life. They strive to deal with individuals as whole persons, not merely sexual beings, offering teaching, and support to individuals, families and the Church.

Emphasizing obedience to God's Word as the beginning of the healing process, they state, "As we grow in our submission to Jesus Christ, we also grow in friendship with Him. It is in relationship with Jesus that we are healed and transformed."

Outpost is directed by Nate Oyloe and is a thriving ministry in the Twin Cities area with 13 staff members, and a real gift of calling the younger generation to holiness and surrender to Christ.



For complete listings:
www.restoredhopenetwork.org
and select Events/Regional Events

Upcoming Events

October

■ October 9-10, 2013 Dyer, Indiana

A Sacred Trust: A Biblical Approach to Sexuality and the Church

www.faithchurchonline.org/connect/events/conferences/link-conference

■ October 11-13, 2013 Texas

New Covenant Marriage Retreat: Couples' Retreat for Healing from sexual brokenness in marriage.

lee@shadowofhiswingsministry.com

■ October 26, 2013 Covina, California

Como Ministrar Los Problemas De Orientación Sexual En La Iglesia Hispana

To register, call the church: (626) 938-1049

November

■ November 7-10, 2013 Phoenix, Arizona

National Association for Research and Therapy of Homosexuality

■ November 10, 2013 Taft, California

Pastor Phillip Lee speaks on "Homosexuality: A Crisis of Truth"

10:30 am—First Baptist Church

■ November 16-22, 2013 Kansas City, Kansas

Kansas City Living Waters Training

Contact: lwtraining@desertstream.org



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RHN is a non-profit 501(c)3 ministry. Your gift is tax-deductible. We are thankful for those who invest in and partner with us in this mission of hope.

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