

December 2015



New Name Ministries

P.O. Box 11694 Fort Worth, Texas 76110



Two Sides of the Same Coin

Lessons From Left Field

By Chuck Bittrick

Two Sides of the Same Coin - Heads

It is an interesting life when you go to the trouble of getting a college education to become an accountant and somewhere along the line (it's been a long line), God moves you into fulltime ministry. Serving others (a real joy) by crunching their numbers and building their reports is much different from serving (interacting with) people directly. I find myself getting along much better with adding machines than I do with people.

Continued on next page

Please join us in welcoming our newest arrivals:

Randy Gressett Sep 25, 2015
John Underwood Sep Oct 1, 2015
Shane Lindsey Oct 27, 2015
Michael Mulder Dec 16, 2015

Pray that our recent graduates will walk in their God-given talents for His glory:

Freddie Clark Sep 27, 2015
Dwayne McCown Oct 6, 2015
Louis Barrientes Oct 23, 2015
Scott Johnston Nov 6, 2015



We're doing something a little different with our articles this time around. One day, Chuck was sharing with Pastor Jon a verse of Scripture that had gotten his attention so much that he made a note of it before completely forgetting about it. He was rummaging around (Chuck can be a bit of a pack rat) and found the notation he had made and thought it worthy of sharing.

As Jon read the selection, what he saw in it was the same truth viewed through a different lens. Of course, Pastor Jon was seeing this through the lens of the Father's heart. Chuck saw this selection as a diagnostic tool to help recognize the condition of an individual to be served.

The Scripture verse we are referring to is 2 Timothy 2:25-26: "Opponents must be

gently instructed, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will."

As a change of pace, both Pastor Jon and Chuck have written articles based on this same selection of Scripture. Not only will you get to enjoy two different sides of the same coin but also get a closer look into the personalities of our National Director and our Director of Administration.

Hopefully, you will find this issue as something pleasant (and challenging) to chew on. Not sure if you prefer steak or a rawhide chew toy, but there's a good chance you'll find something you like here.

From the Father's Heart

By Pastor Jon Cordeiro

Two Sides of the Same Coin - Hearts

2 Timothy 2:25-26 (NIV) "25Opponents must be gently instructed, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, 26and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will."

As you read this Scripture what does it say to you personally? That's right, personally. God breathed His words through man into the Scriptures in a very intentional and personal way. Some might go after this one way and others another, the question is are we receiving what God intended for us? Better yet, are others receiving through us what God intended for them?

When I first got saved I learned how to pray by taking the word I was reading and applying it to my life and the lives of others prayerfully. This gave me a lot of opportunity to look through God's eyes at

myself, others, the Kingdom of God and Him.

This Scripture is loaded with good stuff. Let's start with the "Opponents" needing gentle instruction. Hey these are opponents, really, I need to be gentle?



Yes, a gentle word turns away anger; an emotion that doesn't help anyone's ability to hear. Why would we care? Because the hope is that God would grant them repentance. Wait a minute, God grants repentance? I thought that was a free will deal? Guess not, at least not all the time.

Continued on next page

Left Field continued

I find it a real challenge dealing with people because personalities are different, needs are different, and the hunger for change varies so much. With this in mind, I am always looking for ways to gain insight into how I can help those God has called me to serve.

I have found that repentance is key to change. We usually look at repentance as something connected to Hellfire and brimstone. I see repentance as a party word. Once I truly repent of an issue, I am free of it. This is something I can celebrate.

So, 2 Timothy 2:25-26 jumped out at me one day. "Opponents must be gently instructed, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will." I had always seen repentance as something that began inside of me. But here was Scripture telling me that God grants repentance. I wondered how this would work with some of the more change resistant men who come through New Name.

I wasn't too surprised by the idea that I was being told to instruct them gently. God is pretty consistent about treating others with gentleness. He even draws us into salvation through His love.

But when gentle instruction is offered and repentance does not happen, why not? What holds back repentance? Is God holding out on us? I suspect not since that was one of the first lies of the
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From The Father's Heart continued

Hardened hearts apparently require a special level of grace from God. Maybe there is a cure for stupid?!? Halleluiaah! Seems repentance leads to a knowledge of the truth that brings people to their senses so they can escape the trap of the devil. Okay, but didn't Paul put some guys out of the Church so they could work out their salvation kicking around in the devils sandbox? Yeah, but here they're not playing but being used of the devil to do his will. They're captive to lies that will



lead to their destruction and possibly

Left Field continued

enemy (Genesis 3:5). I've noticed that fear blocks repentance but God's perfect love casts out fear. However, even in the light of love, we often still hang on to our fear.

Over time, I've seen a number of men come through New Name living the cycle of sin and "repent", sin and "repent." From our verse in 2 Timothy, it is clear that when there is true repentance, we are led to the truth, we come to our senses, we escape the trap of the devil, and we are no longer captive to the enemy's will.

How do we know whether or not the person we are serving is truly repentant? First of all, when someone comes to you to apologize, this usually is not a sign of repentance. At best, it is a sign of ownership and not a bad thing. However, many times this is merely a way for an individual to feel better about himself after doing something wrong.

Remember, to "repent" means to change your mind. Being sorry about something involves regret for the consequences but has nothing to do with a changed mind. Repentance talk is change talk. It involves a new understanding of the wrongness of the

From The Father's Heart continued

even yours or others! Yikes! What do we do? Hey, I know! Let's PRAY! First though we need to invite the Lord to search our hearts before interceding for the lives of others. Once you've got the peace of the Lord to move forward you might want to pray something like this before speaking to them:

Lord, thank you that you temper my heart and season my words that I may reach my opponents heart. Father, as you speak through me let the words of my lips have the power of your presence so that repentance may rise up and the knowledge of your Truth may prevail. As the captive is set free from the lies and traps of the enemy I pray that they bring you glory through their testimony of your goodness. Amen.

When we make our agenda God's agenda it changes everything. Be the change you want to see.

Left Field continued

behavior as well as the thinking or belief behind that behavior. Repentance talk comes with commitment talk, a declaration public enough to increase accountability. With this increased accountability comes change: a moving to a knowledge of the truth, a coming to our senses, escaping traps set by the devil, and freedom from doing the will of the enemy.



When there is no repentance talk, we can expect a lack of leading to the truth. We can also expect the individual will not come to his senses. He can't escape the trap of the devil and he will remain captive to the enemy's will.

As always...

We appreciate your continued prayers and financial encouragement for this ministry. Our current needs include financial support for administrative staff, gainful employment for our men, and more staff for expansion. Please join us in declaring supernatural debt cancellation and for a mighty move of the Spirit's freeing work in the lives of His precious ones.