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## **PASTOR'S NOTES – 1. 10. 2016**

### ***The Mission of Meekness***

#### ***Unbreakable Bonds***

#### **MATTHEW 7: 1-5**



*“If you can disappoint yourself as much as you love yourself and you still manage to disappoint yourself then why are you shocked when other people that you love disappoint you?” – T.D. Jakes*

What would keep me from recognizing that a plank is embedded in my face? Of course, Jesus is speaking in spiritual terms. But what could possibly spiritually blind a person of God so outrageously?

Without meekness, Jesus says, without a proper perspective of lowliness and neediness in our lives, the whole view or perspective of our relationships is messed up – my view of you is skewed, blurred, corrupted.

If I am going to be a true Christ follower, Christ’s forgiveness in me will shine through all my day’s actions and words.

If I am going to be a true Christ follower, Christ’s lowliness will reign in my perspective and judgment of you.

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**JOHN 8 – THE WOMAN CAUGHT IN ADULTERY.**

**THE ALL-KNOWING JESUS IS THE MOST QUALIFIED ACCUSER, BUT IN MEEKNESS HE PROTECTS AND LOVES THE WOMAN – EXHORTING HER TO “GO AND SIN NO MORE”.**

**PHILIPPIANS 2:1-11**

**CONSIDER OTHERS AS BETTER THAN YOURSELF.**

**HAVE THIS ATTITUDE OF CHRIST:**

**MADE HIMSELF NOTHING**

**SERVANT**

**HUMBLED**

**OBEDIENT**

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So often the Person of Christ in me is so marginalized, that I allow the bonds of love and grace and pure relationship to deteriorate. This lack of MEEKNESS in me is how the church becomes destroyed from within.

We all must take responsibility for the growth of meekness within ourselves and through this mindset MEEKNESS will grow in the heart of the entire Body here at Amherst and protect us from future onslaughts of bitterness.

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**GROWTH:** Bitterness in one’s life poisons and stifles the growth of a believer and even the journey of an unbeliever towards truth.

This plank – or veil – in our lives causes great blindness to occur when perceiving our own sin. And it causes us to misperceive the reality of our relationships with God and with others.

**HEALING:** MEEKNESS is the disciplined character of Christ within which thwarts bitterness and advances Healing in our lives. Bitterness in one’s life will eventually affect all relationships in that person’s path. It is a cancerous growth which never stops where it is intended to stop. MEEKNESS heals our perspective of OWNERSHIP and opens the door to healing our relationships. It keeps us from grasping for more of “MINE” – it keeps us from clutching to the bitter wounds and allows us to heal.

**MULTIPLYING:** MEEKNESS enlivens our relationships with each other and with God by keeping a right perspective on OWNERSHIP, a right understanding of our great need for a Savior and a right motivation to be a Kingdom-multiplying agent. This MEEKNESS produces within us a multiplying effect of unbreakable unity, open communication and fellowship without fear.

#### **QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:**

**1. WHAT NOW IS YOUR BEST UNDERSTANDING OR DEFINITION OF MEEKNESS?**

**2. IN GENERAL, WHAT ROLE DOES “OWNERSHIP” PLAY IN YOUR ABILITY TO FORGIVE?**

**3. WHAT RIGHTS HAVE YOU HELD ONTO WHICH HAVE PREVENTED YOU FROM FORGIVING AND WHICH IN TURN HAVE CAUSED YOU TO BE LESS EFFECTIVE AS A KINGDOM BUILDER IN YOUR RECENT YEARS?**

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