

Sunday Service: The Wounds of Bitterness

25.5.14

Notes for the cell meeting:

Testimony

- Even before I was born, the devil tried to take my life, he tried to steal from me, and he tried to destroy my family
- God always gave me a gift of loving to serve the Lord, and serve in the house
- I sat in the rows, and loved God, but I never really feared God
- When we confess and turn, and take responsibility for our actions, God is faithful and just to forgive us
- I started to seek God in my life not just for forgiveness, but for the call and plan of God for our lives

The Word

- The favour of God floods over lives because of the honour that we carry for others, the absence of bitterness
- One of the great assignments that the enemy is bringing into the world today, is bitterness
- Why? It removes us from 3 key areas: relationship with friends and family, the house of God and the presence of God, the blessing and favour of God
- The rebellion that we see in the world, is only the fruit, but at the root is often the *hurt of rejection*
- There are many doors to the root of rejection: injustices to the indigenous people groups, favouritism,
- Hurt to bitterness to resentment to anger to murder. This is what we see in many places today in society
- What we can offer today, to others, is an imperfect love. But only God offers perfect love, agape love. If we were able to offer perfect love, we would have no need of God, but we do need God!
- 'Agape love' loves us even when we reject God, live in sin and addiction
- No man can truly love his wife without experiencing the revelation of the unconditional agape love of God
- Sometimes through bitterness, we want to leave the house of God, but healing and restoration happens **in** the house of God, **not outside**

Key Scriptures:

- John 10v10: "The enemy comes to rob, to kill and to destroy..."
- Gen 37v3-5: "Now Israel loved Joseph more..."

Notices:

- **Prayer service:** Every Sunday morning from 9-10am for an awesome hour of power
- **Couples Encounter:** Coming up on the 21st and 22nd of June-don't miss it!
- **Men's Encounter:** This will run on the 30th and 31st May. Register now at the information desk or contact the church office
- **Factory Leadership Internship:** The first Impact weekend is coming up on the 3rd and 4th July, with the new intake for 2014. Take the next step!