

#3 – SURRENDERED: REFLECTIONS FROM THIS WEEK

I INTRODUCTION

- A) As all of you are aware this past Monday we experienced a horrific tragedy here in Toronto. 10 people lost their lives. 16 were injured. Many more were devastated and traumatized by the events. I felt that it was really important that as a church family and spiritual community that we took some time to process together and pray into all that has happened.
- B) I have taken quite a bit of time to pray/reflect this week. I have asked the Lord how we should be responding. I want to share on several key things that have impacted my heart, and I believe they will impact yours as well.

II ETERNITY IS REAL

Hebrews 9:27 (TPT) - Every human being is appointed to die once, and then to face God's judgment.

- A) One of the core realities that we embrace as followers of Jesus is the reality of eternity - the reality that life is not just about our time here on earth but that every human being has an eternal soul that will spend eternity in the new heaven/earth or the Lake of Fire.
- B) We are called to live our lives in light of this reality. We are called to love, serve and reach others in light of this reality. Our church needs to be built in light of this reality.
- C) We are called to be a FAMILY. We are called to be a SPIRITUAL HOSPITAL. We are called to be a TRAINING CENTRE. We are called to be a RESCUE SHIP

III THE THEIF COMES TO STEAL, KILL AND DESTROY BUT JESUS HAS COME THAT WE CAN HAVE ABUNDANT LIFE

John 10:10 (NIV) - The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full

- A) We have an adversary - Satan and his demonic forces and while we don't want to put an undue focus on them we are called to be aware of him and his devices (2 Cor 2:11). He comes to steal, kill and destroy.
- B) We need to recognize that the enemy is not playing games, and we cannot either; in our lives or regarding the lives of people around us.

- C) The enemy was behind what went on this week - we need to point people too, and help people to experience the one that bring abundant life..

IV WE NEED TO REGULARLY PRAY PROTECTION OVER OURSELVES AND OUR FAMILIES

Psalm 91 (TPT) - When you sit enthroned¹ under the shadow of Shaddai, you are hidden² in the strength of God Most High. ²He's the hope that holds me and the Stronghold to shelter me, the only God for me, and my great confidence...

- A) Over and over in the scriptures we see that there is protection available for the people of God - but we need to be alert and we need to pray.
- B) I encourage you to pray Psalm 91 regularly over yourself and your family.
- C) Always remember the power in the name of Jesus

V WE NEED TO "BE THE CHURCH", TO BE SALT AND LIGHT IN OUR CITY - ESPECIALLY IN TIMES LIKE THESE.

Matthew 5:13-16 (NIV) - 13 "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. 14 "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

- A) We stand on Christ the solid rock... all other ground is sinking sand and according to Matthew 7 it's storms that reveal the quality of one's foundation.
- B) People all around us are shaken and we need to be salt and light. We need to pray. We need to love people. We need to listen to Holy Spirit and follow His leading.

VI WE NEED TO LIVE LIVES THAT ARE FULLY SURRENDERED

Romans 8:19 (NIV) - 19 For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed.

- A) Moments like this remind us that we live in a broken, broken world.
- B) This world needs the mature sons and daughters of God to rise up
- C) Good Question: Am I living my life fully for Jesus Christ? Am I living a life that is surrendered?