

LIVING WHOLLY

¹¹ Now it happened as He went to Jerusalem that He passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee. ¹² Then as He entered a certain village, there met Him ten men who were lepers, who stood afar off. ¹³ And they lifted up their voices and said, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” ¹⁴ So when He saw them, He said to them, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” And so it was that as they went, they were cleansed. ¹⁵ And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God, ¹⁶ and fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks. And he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷ So Jesus answered and said, “Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? ¹⁸ Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?” ¹⁹ And He said to him, “Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you whole.” (Luke 17: 11-19)

+ THE STORY OF THE LEPERS

- In this story, Jesus was passing through a village when ten lepers met him. They called out to Jesus to heal them, and He told them to go show themselves to the priests. Jesus didn’t lay hands on any of them and pray for them; he only told them to go show themselves to the priests.
- **Leprosy:** This is a very terrible parasitical illness. It’s highly contagious and causes your skin and limbs to lose feeling and deteriorate, such that if a rat was gnawing at you, you would not feel it. In ancient Jewish times, lepers ere considered unclean; if you had leprosy and you were on the street you had to call out “Unclean! Unclean!”
- By faith the ten lepers went to the priests. Imagine that as the ten lepers are walking to the priests their leprosy starts falling off of them. All of the 10 lepers were healed.
- Of the 10 lepers who were healed, only 1 of them (a Samaritan) responded by giving glory to God and returning to Jesus to give Him thanks.
- Jesus said, “Your faith has made you whole”.

+ SOZO

- The Greek word for *whole* is “sozo.” The definition of this word means to be saved, delivered, healed and cleansed. In other words, it includes the complete healing of mind, body, soul and spirit altogether.
- Of the ten lepers, ten were healed physically, but only one experienced *sozo*.

+ ARE WE WHOLE (SOZO)?

- When Moses asked God for a sign to show that He would be with him when he went back to Egypt, God told him to put his hand into his bosom. Moses did, and when he pulled it out his hand had

became leprous. Then God told Moses to put his hand back in his bosom, and it was made clean.

- God was demonstrating to Moses his heart condition. Ask yourself: is my spiritual condition like that of a leper? Leprosy causes decay, and even if the enemy is attacking you and destroying you, you may be completely numb to it.
- Being healthy is not just about being physically healthy, but we must be whole, i.e. healthy in all areas (thoughts, emotions etc).

+ HOW TO LIVE WHOLE

⁵² *And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men. (Luke 2:52)*

- In order to live wholly, we must be like Jesus. If Jesus is your only passion, then all of the abundance of Jesus should be our abundance.
- In Luke 2:52, we see how Jesus lived, increasing in the following four areas:
 1. “Wisdom” (IQ: Intelligence Quotient),
 2. “Stature” (HQ: Health Quotient)
 3. “Favor with God” (SQ: Spiritual Quotient)
 4. “Favor with men” (EQ: Emotional [or social] Quotient)
- A study done in 1979 showed that most successful CEOs (85%) are successful not because of a high IQ but rather because of a high EQ.
- Which of these four areas do we need to improve in?

+ PHYSICAL HEALTH (HQ)

⁸ *For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come. (1 Timothy 4:8)*

- Exercise is good. We need to have strong and healthy bodies. Jesus need to have a strong body in order to endure the 39 flogs before He went on the cross.

+ TRUE WISDOM (IQ)

¹⁷ *But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. (James 3:17)*

- Story: Minister David’s wife once told him that real wisdom is being completely pure. Upon hearing this he was filled by the Holy Spirit.
- Wisdom is not just knowledge, but it is the ability to make the right choices at the right time.

+ FAVOR WITH GOD (SQ)

- The Greek word for *favor* used in this context is “Charis.” This word means “grace”.
- God’s love for us not dependent anything we can do. His love and favor are given to us freely. This is the meaning of grace.
- Story: Minister David’s daughter understands what is grace. One time he took the whole family to watch a movie. He wanted to sit next to his wife, but his daughter said she wanted to sit in between them. Her only thought was that her parents both loved her unconditionally so it was okay to sit in between them.
- King David truly knew God’s grace, because even though he had committed many sinful crimes he still believed that God delighted in him regardless.

¹⁹ He also brought me out into a broad place; He delivered me because He delighted in me.
(Psalm 18:16-19)

+ WHICH AREA DO WE NEED TO IMPROVE IN?

1. As we look at these four quotients, which one do we need to improve in the most? Minister David says that the area where he needs to improve the most in EQ. David’s wife once told him, “a person who is easily angered is a shallow person.” When she said this to him, he was filled by the Holy Spirit.
2. Jesus had a high EQ. Think about it: just prior to the miracle of feeding ten thousand people, Jesus’ cousin (John The Baptist) was beheaded. This was someone extremely close to him. Even so, he was willing to lay down his emotions and have compassion on the hungry crowd.
3. Also, Jesus was nearly beaten to death and then hung on a cross; yet He was still able to lift His head and say, “Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.”
4. This is high EQ: if you can lay down your emotions, not react to how you’re being treated, and see completely through the eyes of the Father.
5. Make this your goal for this year: to grow in all four of these areas. We want to be strong in all the four Q’s.

+ THE CHARACTERISTICS OF A HEALTHY PERSON

1. **A Healthy Appetite:** When you are physically healthy, you have a good appetite. You are able to eat and drink. So if you are spiritually healthy, you should have a healthy spiritual appetite. Essentially, someone who has no appetite for God’s Word is spiritually unhealthy.
2. **Able To Be Pruned:** In order to bear fruit, a tree must be pruned. In the same way we must be

willing to be pruned either through correction or our circumstances.

3. **A Thankful Heart:** Thankfulness is a sign of inner-health. A thankful heart is a healthy heart. For example, a thankful person is usually slow to judge and criticize.

- i. Story: Sky and Kellie’s wedding ceremony on Saturday morning was very powerful and moving, because both of them are thankful people. Sky was expressed great gratitude towards his parents, and Kellie expressed her gratitude towards God for the good weather, since there had just been a rainstorm the night before.

4. **Bearing the Fruit of the Spirit:** The purpose of inner-life is to bear much fruit. If a tree grows very big and has many branches but no fruit, the farmer will cut it off and burn it. A tree is useless if it bears no fruit. Therefore, being healthy means that we must bear fruit.

5. **Fearing God and Respecting Others**

6. **Full of Hope**

+ **AN EXAMPLE OF A HEALTHY PERSON: NICK VUJICIC**

1. While we can use Tim Tebow as an example of a healthy person, it’s easy for us to think we can’t compare because he is big and strong. Therefore let’s consider Nick Vujicic.
2. Nick Vujicic was born with no limbs. He only has a small foot with two toes. However, he is probably healthier (more whole) than all of us. He has a healthy appetite, he has gone through pruning (he has no limbs), a thankful heart, fears God, respects others and is full of hope. Consider his quotes:

“The saddest thing in live is not to be missing your limbs, but it’s not having hope and purpose to live for. What truly changes our destiny is not our circumstances, rather our attitude.”

“If you can’t get a miracle, become one.”

+ **ACTION PLAN**

1. Evaluate your health in the following four areas, according to Luke 2:52: “wisdom,” or intelligence (IQ); “stature,” or fitness (HQ); the “favor of God,” or spiritual being (SQ); and the “favor of man,” or emotional being (EQ). Decide which area(s) you need breakthrough in, and develop a specific action plan for breakthrough.
2. Spend 10 minutes a day praying over your action plan developed in Question #1.
3. Ask 1-2 of the persons close to you to look over your action plan and give suggestions and advice.

+ **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. What do you think health is? How does the Bible and the message we heard define “health”? Please share your insight.
2. According to the 4Q graph, how would you evaluate your four areas of health? Please share your expectations for breakthrough in the areas you want to grow in, as well as the action plan you have set to reach your goals.
3. What are some things you want to let go of in the year 2012? What are some thing you want to acquire in the year 2012?