

6/2/24 38 PB 5

Sermon – LINF

Scripture – Hebrews 6:10-12, Mathew 22:1-14, 2nd Chronicles 29:5-11, Rev 21:5-8

Main Message – Hear is an age old problem that we must not succumb to: Lazy, Indifferent, Negligent & Fearful

In my life I have had times that I have felt lazy. How about you. I have felt indifferent on both important and unimportant subjects. I have been negligent when I should have been more on top of things. I have had periods of fear, which has prevented me from doing what I should have. I'm guessing we are all the same. It's part of the human condition. I battle against being a "LINF," which is lazy, indifferent, negligent and fearful person.

When you look around at the world in which we live and you see the amount of pure garbage spewed constantly, you might wonder, "**How did we get here?**" To understand that one must consider that it is always a battle against good and evil. Evil has a battle plan, is patient, has placed people in positions of authority, (aka high places) and often times controls all lines of communication, education, economy and government. This is basically the message of the 4 horsemen of the apocalypse. Good has its solution and its Jesus Christ along with those who believe upon him. We've been given the commandments, the Bible, God's Spirit, and direction to spread the Gospel of truth.

Evil ultimately loses, but the path along the way can be brutal. For Evil to win takes just one thing: and that is for Good to do nothing. This is why American Churches and Christianity are becoming irrelevant and not influencing society in a positive way. God's moral values and wholesome laws are thrown out the window. We can agree that the world is no better off because of it. Its one thing for morality to take a hit, but a whole other thing to have irrational acceptance of such things as being good. It defies logic.

Are we lazy, or indifferent, or negligent, or fearful? How did we get here, to the place we are sitting at right now, where wrong is right and right is wrong? Because Christians, for whatever set of reasons have all battled the same issues of being lazy indifferent negligent and fearful and have not heeded the SPIRIT and what it asks of us.

Why are men competing in women's sports. Because good people aren't rallying together and calling it out for what it is. Even 5 years ago, this topic wouldn't have seemed real, and yet today it happens all the time. Why is sex and gender all of a sudden so confusing? Why are people allowed to come into a country illegally. Why are people allowed to steal and if you disagree you are called a racist. It is because Christians have become LINF.

So, we are too lazy to do battle. Indifferent because whatever is happening just doesn't matter to us. We are negligent when we know what is right but don't do it. Or the perhaps the worst we are afraid which means the Spirit of God is not an integral part of who we are.

We are fully equipped to do battle against these broken ideologies that are irrational and destructive. How do you do battle against evil in a loving way? Think on that for a moment. Contemplate what love is. Love is the full and complete embodiment of truth. Jesus told the truth. HE told the woman at the well to stop sleeping around. Imagine saying that in these days – Same as in those days. He had a mission and a purpose, but Peter didn't want to hear it, and Jesus said, "get behind me Satan!" That seems harsh, but it was the truth. Jesus didn't give everyone what they wanted to hear, but what **they needed** to hear.

God has given us promises, but laziness will not yield fruit. **Read Hebrews 6**

God has an open invitation, but people are indifferent. **Read Mathew 22**

God requires every generation to battle against evil and to not be negligent. **Read 2nd Chronicles**

God is clear, that those bound by fear are not part of the kingdom. **Read Revelation 21**

The message here today is don't be a LINF. Whether you are young or old, there is a place for you to stand against the evil of our age. Its not really much different than any other age as we have seen in scripture, but if Christians don't stand up, well we can expect to continue shaking our head wondering , "How did we get here?"