*Wednesday, April 18, 2012*

**Slice of Life**

2 Corinthians 10:3-5 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (4) (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) (5) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; (KJV)

Another one of the devil’s playgrounds is the area of drawing God’s people back to the flesh and getting them to put a carnal face on a spiritual situation. Factions, backbiting, petty bickering by silly trifling people, and yes that does include Christians, who spend and waste a lot of energy back in the flesh and playing the blame game with others.

Ephesians 6:10-13 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. (11) Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. (12) For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. (13) Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. (KJV)

Obviously you didn’t take the time to put on the whole armor of God, because when the enemy fired a dart it got through, which is why you are back wrestling in the flesh and blood realm again. Instead of wrangling with mankind why didn’t you spend more time in the Word today so that when the enemy tried to get you back into the flesh you were able to recognize it quick and douse the flames before you got flaming mad and upset.

Proverbs 10:17-19 He is in the way of life that keepeth instruction: but he that refuseth reproof erreth. (18) He that hideth hatred with lying lips, and he that uttereth a slander, is a fool. (19) In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise. (KJV)

We have all said things about others that we wish we could have taken back; now it’s a matter of recognizing where this strife began so that you can put an end to it before it turns out to be a deadly fire, which is how the tongue is described when out of control.

Proverbs 19:5 A false witness shall not be unpunished, and he that speaketh lies shall not escape. (KJV)

You know that thing you said about someone else; you know how brave and fired up you were when they were not around? Yeah how much different was it when you were actually face to face? Not as bold as you imagined you were. I have had people run a smear campaign on me from a distance, and yet gave me a big hug and called me their brother when it came time to make those same accusations face to face.

1 Corinthians 8:12 But when ye sin so against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, ye sin against Christ. (KJV)

Not everything that you think or imagine came from our Lord; however, when you speak or act contrary to sound doctrine it does come back to the Lord, who then confronts you about them personally face to face.

Proverbs 26:20-22 Where no wood is, there the fire goeth out: so where there is no talebearer, the strife ceaseth. (21) As coals are to burning coals, and wood to fire; so is a contentious man to kindle strife. (22) The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly. (KJV)

It’s interesting when you get rid of the talebearer, because the strife seems to go away also. Bottom line Church, if you can’t say something straight up to someone face to face then there was no business saying it to everyone else’s first.