

# IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL

## Part 2 - Apathy

**John 10:10** → *The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.*

- \* Do you ever feel DEAD inside? PASSION gone, FLAMES extinguished, DREAMS lost?
- \* Does it ever feel there's been so much STEALING, KILLING & DESTROYING that there's none of that ABUNDANT LIFE left?

APATHY = Absence or suppression of PASSION, EMOTION or EXCITEMENT... Lack of INTEREST in or CONCERN for things that others find MOVING or EXCITING.

→ *What does the word 'apathy' mean to you?*

→ *Have you ever been in this place? What was it like? Is it somewhere you occasionally visit? How have you escaped in the past?*

### DEADNESS OF SOUL

- No PASSION, ENERGY or DRIVE ... No excitement, joy or anticipation.
  - Don't CARE as much anymore: What used to bug you, just doesn't anymore.
  - DREAMS have faded deep into the background: Lost your purpose & direction.
  - Become UNFEELING and ALOOF or even CYNICAL and CRITICAL.
  - Started to pull back from RELATIONSHIPS and avoid any CONFRONTATION.
- *What do each of these look like and how do you end up there? How many of these need to be in place before you should be concerned? Are you concerned? About any?*

### WAYS YOUR APATHY MIGHT MANIFEST

- DISTANCE from God
  - No hunger for the WORD
  - Dead PRAYER life
  - Christian walk has become RELIGIOUS repetition and ritual.
  - Work becomes a DRAG
  - No energy for CHALLENGE or CONFLICT
  - Relational WITHDRAWAL
  - Inability to feel others' PAIN or SYMPATHISE with another's problems
  - No DREAMS and PLANS
  - Wanting to DROP it all and LEAVE
- *Anything else to add to the list? Are you struggling with any of these at the moment?*

### POTENTIAL ROOT CAUSES OF APATHY

- HURT
- BURNOUT
- Loss of DIRECTION

- Death of a DREAM
- Word STARVATION

→ *Have you ever experienced any of these? What effect did they have on your soul? Any other possible triggers you can add to the list?*

### WALKING THROUGH A DOOR ANALOGY

1. DECIDING to WALK THROUGH that door.

- \* INTENT and IMPERATIVE (Romans 12:11, Luke 21:34-35, Revelation 3:15-16).

→ *What is your role in escaping from apathy and what is the Lord's? Is it possible to escape without making any changes? What is the Lord saying to your heart right now?*

2. You have to OPEN that door, because you NEED what's on the other side.

- \* What does He HAVE that we NEED? What does the SPIRIT-filled, SUPERNATURAL life offer us that we've LOST SIGHT of? How do access the LIFE He promises?
- \* The solution to your reawakening is not a WHAT or a WHERE, but a WHO.
- \* He is the FIRE, His is the PASSION, He is the PATHOS.
- \* To break free from apathy, to live the God-kind of life, we need MORE of GOD (Psalm 69:32, 34:10, Hosea 10:12).

→ *If you're the wrong side of that door, what does God have that you need? What does the Spirit-filled, supernatural life offer us that you've lost sight of?*

→ *How do you 'seek' God? Why does He require that we seek Him? What is available to us when we do? (Hint: Try looking up all the 'seek' verses in a concordance or online)*

3. CLOSE the door: What do you have to LEAVE BEHIND?

→ *How is Abraham's call to leave his home city of Ur and the subsequent journey of his people a prophetic picture of the transition from spiritual death to abundant life?*

→ *In order to break free from apathy, what might one have to leave behind? If you are going to break free from your apathy, what specifically is God calling you to leave behind?*

4. STRIDE on through: What now must I DO? Where must I INVEST?

- Get into the WORD (John 6:63, Hebrews 4:12, Prov 4:20-22, Jer 23:29).

→ *How might you 'get into the Word?' What can the Word do inside you?*

- Get into the FIRE (Matthew 3:11, 2 Timothy 1:6, Romans 12:11).

→ *How might you 'get into the fire?' What can the fire of God do to your soul?*

- Sharpen your IRON (Proverbs 27:17).

→ *How might you 'sharpen your iron?' To what extent do other people influence the state of your soul?*

### RESPONSE

- If you've been challenged by this message, is it time to do business with God?*
- Do you want that fire back? How can we pray for you?*
- If you're already on fire, ask again how God wants to use you as conduit of life?*