

Walls with our Community

WALLS are unhealthy m_____, conclusions, assumptions and attitudes that get c_____ into our living that prevent us from experiencing l_____ as God intended.

As we come to God by faith and S_____ our WALLS, R_____ Jesus, His truth and promises concerning our WALLS and A_____ accordingly....the WALLS come down!

2 Corinthians 10³ For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. ⁴For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. ⁵We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ,

WALLS not only separate us from God and His Life for us but also from “e_____ o_____” and the Kingdom work He wants us to face together.

John 17 13 “I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. 14 I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. 15 My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. 16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. 17 Sanctify them by[d] the truth; your word is truth. 18 As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. 19 For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

20 “My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, 21 that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22 I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— 23 I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

Matthew 5

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.

WALLS Between Us and Our Community

WALLS of F_____!

Like the Pharisees who questioned Jesus, we are afraid that we will lose our identity—or our righteousness—if we mingle with those who live distant from God!

We are meant to “I_____ out onto our world” not shrink back in fear of being l_____ on.

The salt is out of the salt shaker!

Mark 2 ¹⁵ While Jesus was having dinner at Levi’s house, many tax collectors and sinners were eating with him and his disciples, for there were many who followed him. ¹⁶ When the teachers of the law who were Pharisees saw him eating with the sinners and tax collectors, they asked his disciples: “Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?” ¹⁷ On hearing this, Jesus said to them, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

WALLS of C_____!

In the same way that self-preservation can keep different churches from working together, meeting our own felt needs can occupy all our energy and time.

WALLS of A_____!

The longer we live behind walls of separation from those around us, our neighbors, the less we seem to care about their hurts and needs.

Dear Lord Jesus,

I SURRENDER myself (including my WALLS) and my agenda for this day in my life to You!

I RECEIVE You, Your agenda, Your promises and Your resources for me to follow You this day!

And now I will ACT like it in faith-filled obedience! Amen