

Family TableTalk

Conversation 63

Sin Revealed

read

Ezekiel 8:7-18

think

we read “have you seen his own idol?”

In Ezekiel 8 we read about a vision that was given to the prophet Ezekiel. We read that he sees examples of leaders (the elders), women, and men all practicing idolatry in God’s holy temple. God is furious and plans to deal with his people accordingly. They falsely believe that God has forsaken them and have turned to idols. In verse 12 what the elders of the house of Israel are doing in the darkness, each at the shrine of

Worshipping other idols in God’s very dwelling place? Their sin seems so blatant, so bold! How could they!? And then it hits me... if my heart is to be the dwelling place of Christ (Ephesians 3:17), then haven’t I done the exact same thing? What idols have I set up in the darkness of my own heart? There are so many idols lurking, hidden in the darkness that can trip us up.

Sometimes it takes enduring dark and painful situations in our lives in order for the sin that dwells in us to be revealed. I know that’s true in my life. I’m more likely to be convicted of the darkness in my own heart during or after a difficult circumstance. When I’m coasting by, it’s easy to buy into Satan’s lies and believe that my sin is no big deal, and before I know it, it’s dug a deep trench and has a stranglehold on me. Thank God that through the work of Jesus Christ and the conviction of the Holy Spirit, the sin that trips me up can be brought to the surface, repented of, and forgiven.

apply

- Where do you turn when you feel as though God has forsaken you? What shrines might you have established in your heart? Are there any sins hiding in the darkness that the Holy Spirit needs to reveal to you so that you can repent of them?
- Take some time to confess and ask forgiveness of one another for the sins that have impacted your family members.
- The Lord dealt harshly with the idolaters, but as always, he keeps his promises to the Israelites. Read Ezekiel 11:17-21 for a declaration of God’s continued promise to them. Through the work of Jesus Christ, what promises do we now have as God’s adopted children?

pray

Father, we have all sinned against you. Please forgive us. We have all set up shrines to our own idols in the darkness of our hearts. Please allow the Holy Spirit to convict us of these sins. We know that you detest sin. Thank you for sending your Son to deal with the penalty of our sin so that we can be made right with you. Shine a light in the darkness and help us to turn once again to you. Amen.

by Chris Wagner

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