

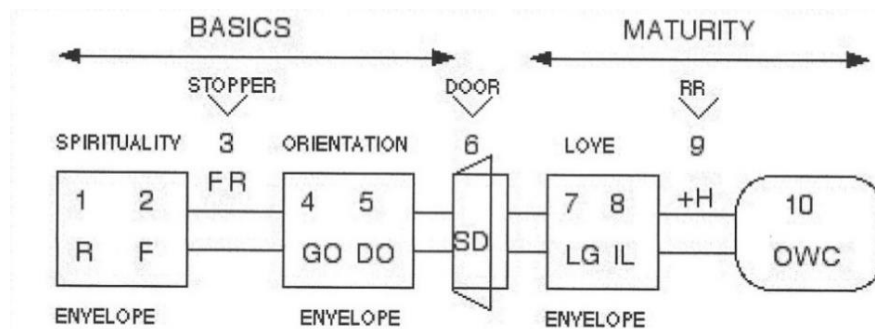
1. Last week I taught in part 2Ti 4:1-2 by way of the Doctrine of the *Four Problem Solving Devices*.
2. Before we continue that study, I want to give you opportunity to use 1Jo 1:9 as may or may not be necessary.
3. For a written and/or audio copy of this lesson please go to westbankbiblechurch.com and click-on streaming audio of services.
4. I want to review some of that learned last week and then begin new material on page four where we were studying the ninth device.

NIV

2Ti 4:1 In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge:

2Ti 4:2 Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage -- with great patience and careful instruction.

5. I think the best way to study these verses is to review the *Doctrine of the Problem Solving Devices*.



Problem-Solving Device Number One

Rebound is the divine mandate to maintain the filling of the Spirit and is the foundation for all other problem-solving devices. When you sin, confessing your sin to God is the only solution that allows you to restore your fellowship with God, and recover the filling of the Holy Spirit.

Psa 32:5; Pro 28:13

If you confess [name, cite, admit, acknowledge] your sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive your sins [and to purify you from all unrighteousness]. Rebound is not *victory* over sin and carnality; rebound is *recovery* from sin and carnality. 1Jo 1:9

By using 1Jo 1:9 you will receive God's forgiveness absolutely and thus let you continue your spiritual growth by means of cycling the Word of God under the filling of the Spirit. Rom 12:2

Problem-Solving Device Number Two

The filling of the Holy Spirit is a ministry of the Holy Spirit. This is the divine provision of power mandated by God for you to execute the Christian way of life. The filling of the Spirit provides you with the ability to perceive and apply the infallible Word of God. Joh 4:26; Gal 5:16; Eph 2:10 and Rom 12:2

Problem-Solving Device Number Three

Faith-rest is the technique that you apply to overcome any difficulty, problem, or disaster in your life. You first establish a relaxed mental attitude through rebound and the filling of the Holy Spirit. Then by claiming a biblical promise, you concentrate on pertinent doctrines designed to restore your divine viewpoint. Faith-rest stabilizes your ability to think objectively under pressure.

Everyone is susceptible to fear, even the mature believer. When fear catches you off guard, you must quickly recover your mental poise, your ability to think and apply doctrine. Deu 31:6; Isa 41:10; Psa 56:11; Jer 33:3; Rom 8:31; Phi 4:19; 1Pe 5:6-7; 2Ti 1:7

Problem-Solving Device Number Four

Grace orientation is the knowledge that the grace of God is His unmerited favor, extended to sinful humanity. Grace includes all that God is free to do for undeserving mankind, on the basis of the saving work of Jesus Christ on the Cross. God does all the work. Isa 30:18; Rom 12:3

A basic Christian virtue is respect for authority. Humility is an excellent synonym for grace orientation. Grace orientation leads to respect for authority, which in turn leads to "teachability." Rom 12:3

Problem-Solving Device Number Five

Doctrinal orientation is the perception and application of Bible doctrine that opens up the richest treasure in the universe--Doctrine.

The Bible is designated as the Word of God, and Bible doctrine is the thinking of God. Heb 4:12

Bible doctrine is the mind of Christ and you are exhorted to metabolize the mind of Christ, and grow in grace. Phi 2:5; 2Co 2:16; 1Pe 4:1-2; 2Pe 1:17-19

Learning Bible doctrine is the glue that holds all the problem-solving devices together. Rom 12:3

Problem-Solving Device Number Six

A personal sense of destiny is developed when you begin to live your life in the light of eternity.

As the door to the entrance into the more advanced problem-solving devices, your self-worth becomes inseparably united with Jesus Christ because you share eternally all that Christ has and is:

His righteousness

2Co 5:21

His election

Eph 1:3-4

His sonship

Gal 3:26

His priesthood

1Pe 2:5

His kingship

Rev 20:6

Problem-Solving Device Number Seven

Personal love for God is the virtue love that you gain from the perception and application of Bible doctrine. God is the paragon for virtue love. Every believer, in both the Old Testament and New Testament, is commanded to love God. Deu 6:5; 1Pe 1:8

To understand love of God, you must go to the source, which is God's love for you. In the Kingdom Age the negative people who did not accept the Messiah's offering were said to not love God. Joh 5:41-43

The absolute standard of virtue love is God's divine essence, not relative systems of human ethics. God is perfect; therefore, His love is perfect. Divine love is far superior to the strongest human love you will ever know. Love of God is commanded in Scripture. Mat 22:37; 1Jo 4:19

Problem-Solving Device Number Eight

Impersonal love for all mankind is the unconditional love you have toward others, which reflects your personal love for God. You respect the privacy and freedom of others, and learn to "live and let live." This means you abstain from gossip, maligning, judging, character assassination, and evil speculations from rumors and hearsay. Mat 7:1-5; Rom 14:4

People comprise some of the most severe tests in life. Some of your associations may be obnoxious or evil. Even for loved ones or close companions, a constant personal love is difficult to maintain. When you are occupied with Christ, you will love all people using impersonal love thus loving your neighbor as yourself. Rom 13:8

Unconditional love flows from your integrity rather than from the attractiveness of the object. This is the same unconditional love God bestowed on the entire human race. Joh 3:16

Your impersonal love derived from your virtue love for God, takes precedence over the faults and flaws of people. When personal love for God and impersonal unconditional love for all mankind unite, they form virtue love. 1Co 13:4-7

Problem-Solving Device Number Nine

Sharing the happiness of God is God's ultimate goal for your life. Your sharing God's happiness is the culmination and intensification of all the other problem-solving devices. Contrary to many humped-shouldered Christians walking around suffering for Jesus, we are to be happy and rejoice in Him. In fact, as our prototype Jesus Himself was happy and we too should follow His example. We indeed are commanded to share the happiness of God.

Joh 15:11 "These things have I spoken unto you, that my happiness might remain in you, and that your joy and happiness might be full."

Jesus likewise gave us the example. It is therefore understandable that a subject so important to mankind is one often treated in Scripture.

Joh 17:13 "And now come I to you; and these things I speak in the world that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves."

Happiness has been defined as ... "the agreeable sensation which springs from the enjoyment of good: the state of being in which one's desires are gratified by the enjoyment of pleasure without pain, remorse, guilt or regret."

Notice the application of 1Jo 1:9 to happiness. The Holy Spirit isolates the sin, we name the sin, we forget the sin and we move on. Rebound should relieve the believer of all guilt and make for a joyful renewal.

Secularly speaking happiness is relative. It was said by the English satirist, Jonathan Swift, "one gentleman is happy at a reply, another excels in a rejoinder. Thus, one might be happy with an assertion and then sad at the recipient's response." Such is not the case with happiness as defined by the Word of God.

Joh 17:13 "And now come I to you; and these things I speak in the world that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves."

There is a minus happiness which represents blessing from Satan. Satan, as the ruler of this world, has the power to provide a pseudo-happiness for both the believer and the unbeliever. Usually Satan provides his minus happiness to motivate people to do his will.

This minus happiness evaporates quickly because Satan is not interested in making people happy and he is incompetent and can't sustain his own happiness much less those who serve him. This minus happiness is available to believers who are under the influence of evil. This minus happiness does not sustain in times of catastrophe or pressure. It is important to note however, that even the acts of Satan and certainly his subalterns are under the permissive will of God and all things for the believer and unbeliever work for "good." Think about Job.

There is what we might call neutral happiness which comes from the recognition and compliance with establishment principles. Unbelievers can participate in this type of neutral happiness. There is also a happiness which comes from obeying God's protocols.

The divine institutions such as volition, marriage, family and nationalism provide a road map for prosperity and happiness. There is a + happiness for those who take in the Word of God under the filling of the Spirit.

The principles of happiness in summary: You cannot build your happiness on someone else's unhappiness. You cannot build your happiness on the details of life; things or success will only provide short term episodic happiness at best. You cannot build your happiness on perfect environment. You cannot build your happiness on people. You cannot build your happiness on revolution or anti-establishment thinking. You cannot build your happiness on carnality or evil.

True happiness can only be built on redemption and spiritual growth. Redemption is only found in faith alone in Christ alone and spiritual growth can only come from a mind transformed by metabolized doctrine in your soul.

The pattern for this wonderful happiness began with Jesus Christ during His excruciating crucifixion. His relaxed mental attitude equated adversity with prosperity, and dying with living. He never felt threatened or sorry for Himself. His happiness did not change even under dreadful circumstances, cruelty, torture, unjust treatment, or death. You have access to the same happiness in your life.

Phi 4:11 Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.

Phi 4:12 I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: everywhere and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.

Phi 4:13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Problem-Solving Device Number Ten

Occupation with Christ is the pinnacle or penthouse of the Christian way of life, it is when you love and respect Jesus Christ, His person and work intensely.

By using the nine problem-solving devices, you develop a concentrated focus on Jesus Christ; it is here your attention becomes riveted on Him. Despite the pressure and suffering that surrounds you, you can be stabilized by your constant awareness of the Lord.

When you are occupied with Christ, He is your role model, the pattern for your life, your closest companion Who influences your thoughts.

Rom 14:7 For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself.

Rom 14:8 For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.

Rom 14:9 For to this end Christ both died, and rose, and revived, that he might be Lord both of the dead and living.

When your capacity for personal love for God has reached the point of occupation with Christ, God can entrust you with phenomenal blessings and testing. Since your spiritual life depends upon encouragement only from Christ, you cease to depend upon people for love, happiness, help, or support.

You have become spiritually self-sustaining. No problem, suffering, no disaster, shock or pressure can intrude on your soul and dim the illuminating presence of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Phi 1:20 According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that I shall not be put to shame in anything, but that with all boldness Christ shall even now, as always, be exalted in my body, whether by life, or by death.

Phi 1:21 For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

6. Now let's see what we can learn from 2Ti 4:3-5.

KJV

2Ti 4:3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

2Ti 4:4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

2Ti 4:5 But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.

NIV

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7. I think the best way to study these verses is to review the *Doctrine of False Communicators*.

8. Let's first look at three infamous false teachers: Hymenaeus, Philetus and Alexander.

Infamous New Testament False Teachers

1. The apostle Paul speaks of Hymenaeus, Philetus and Alexander as men who were doing most serious injury to the church by their teaching. More specifically their teaching negatively affected first century faith and morals.

2. The specific error of these men was that they denied that there would be any bodily resurrection. They treated all Scriptural references to such a state, as figurative or metaphorical.

3. They spiritualized it absolutely, and held that the resurrection was a thing of the past. No resurrection was possible. There would be no day when the dead would hear the voice of Christ and come forth out of the grave.

4. The Christian, knowing that Christ was raised from the dead, looked forward to the day when his body should be raised in the likeness of Christ's resurrection. But this faith was utterly denied by the teaching of Hymeneus and Philetus. It is difficult to determine the type and nature of Alexander's false doctrine was.

5. Paul tells us, this false teaching had overthrown the faith of some. It would also overthrow Christian faith altogether, for if the dead are not raised, neither is Christ risen from the dead, and "ye are yet in your sins"

6. The denial of the resurrection of the body, whether of mankind generally or of Christ, is the overthrow of the faith. It leaves nothing to cling to, no living Christ, who saves and leads and comforts His people.

7. The apostle proceeds to say that teaching of this kind "eats as doth a gangrene," and that it increases unto more ungodliness. As a canker or gangrene eats away the flesh, so does such teaching eat away Christian faith.

8. Paul is careful to say, more than once, that the teaching which denies that there will be a resurrection of the dead leads inevitably to "ungodliness" and to "iniquity."

9. Hymenaeus and Philetus may have believed in a nascent form of the Christian heresy of Gnosticism.

10. Let's review the Scriptures which mention the three heretics.

2Ti 2:17 Their teaching will spread like gangrene. Among them are

Hymenaeus and Philetus,

2Ti 2:18 who have wandered away from the truth. They say that the resurrection has already taken place, and they destroy the faith of some.

2Ti 2:19 Nevertheless, God's solid foundation stands firm, sealed with this inscription: "The Lord knows those who are his," and, "Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness."

2Ti 2:20 In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for noble purposes and some for ignoble.

1Ti 1:18 Timothy, my son, I give you this instruction in keeping with the prophecies once made about you, so that by following them you may fight the good fight,

1Ti 1:19 holding on to faith and a good conscience. Some have rejected these and so have shipwrecked their faith.

1Ti 1:20 Among them are **Hymenaeus and Alexander**, whom I have handed over to Satan to be taught not to blaspheme.

Acts 19:33 The Jews pushed **Alexander** to the front, and some of the crowd shouted instructions to him. He motioned for silence in order to make a defense before the people.

Acts 19:34 But when they realized he was a Jew, they all shouted in unison for about two hours: "Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!"

2Ti 4:14 **Alexander** the metalworker did me a great deal of harm. The Lord will repay him for what he has done.

2Ti 4:15 You too should be on your guard against him, because he strongly opposed our message.

2Ti 4:16 At my first defense, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them.

2Ti 4:17 But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was delivered from the lion's mouth.

2Ti 4:18 The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Doctrine of False Communicators

1. The Scriptures are replete with teachings about false communicators. False communicators are called: false prophets, wolves in sheep's clothing, Satan's ministers, wells without water, hireling prophets, profane and vain babblers.

1.1 False Prophets:

Jer 14:14 Then the LORD said unto me, The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart.

Mat 7:15 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

Mat 24:11 And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.

Mat 24:24 For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.

Mar 13:22 For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect.

Luk 6:26 Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! for so did their fathers to the false prophets.

2Pe 2:1 But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

1Jo 4:1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

1.2 Wolves In Sheep's Clothing

Mat 10:16 Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.

Luk 10:3 Go your ways: behold, I send you forth as lambs among wolves.

Acts 20:29 For I know this, that after my departing from Ephesus shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.

1.3 Satan's Ministers

2Co 11:4 For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him ...

2Co 11:13 For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, masquerading as apostles of Christ.

2Co 11:14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

2Co 11:15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

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