

LETTING YOUR LIGHT SHINE

Lesson #4 –Darkness of Pressure
Scripture Reading: 2 Chronicles 18:4-7

Introduction:

1. Although light always overpowers the darkness, the darkness is still going to try.
2. We must continually shine our light through the midst of all types of worldly pressure.
3. We shine our light through...

I. PRESSURE FROM PEERS

A. THE FOUR-HUNDRED PROPHETS

1. Each of these were prophesying victory for the king -18:5, 10-11
2. Micaiah was urged to speak words of encouragement before the king -18:12

B. PEER PRESSURE TODAY

1. Evil companions corrupt good morals -1Co 15:33
2. Solomon's advice –Pr 1:15-19
3. Jesus was a "friend of sinners"; His light was always shining before them.

II. PRESSURE FROM AUTHORITY

A. MICAIAH BEFORE THE KING

1. The king asks him counsel concerning the battle – 18:14
2. He responds with perhaps a tone of sarcasm
3. King Ahab appears to be used to Micaiah's tonality.
4. Micaiah accuses the prophets of lying -18:18-24

B. AUTHORITATIVE PRESSURE TODAY

1. First, pray for those in authority over us -1Ti 2:1-2
2. Submit to the governing authorities –Ro 13:1-7; 1Pe 2:13-17
3. Still, we must stand for the truth of God's word –Ac 5:29
4. There are religious groups that will not preach against sin for it is too controversial
5. We must continue to preach the truth in love –Ep 4:15, 2Ti 4:2

III. PRESSURE FROM CONSEQUENCES

A. MICAIAH PUT IN PRISON -18:25-27

1. His word were not received
2. He would be in prison and feed bread and water
3. He would remain until the return of the king; who would not return

B. PRESSURE OF CONSEQUENCE TODAY

1. Some wrongfully imprisoned
 - a. Peter –Ac 5:17-21; 12:5-19
 - b. Paul –Ac 16:16-ff
2. Some were put to death
 - a. Steven –Ac 7:54-60
 - b. James (the brother of John) –Ac 12:1-4
3. We have no way of knowing the future, but we must remain steadfast in the Lord
 - a. Take up our cross –Mk 8:34-38
 - b. He who endures to the end will be saved –Mt 10:22

Conclusion:

1. The words of Jesus to Peter –Jn 21:18-19
2. We too must follow Him to the very end.