



Thursday Thought

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Out of Sight, Out of Mind

Thursday 9/12/2019

Verse for the week: Jeremiah 16:17 (NCV) I see everything they do. They cannot hide from me the things they do; their sin is not hidden from my eyes..

Recently we've been doing some "Spring Cleaning" at our church. It seems as though this is a never ending job. While we were spraying weeds around the campus I had to go to the very back of the campus, behind our gymnasium, to get something out of our storage trailer. As I walked back there I noticed quite a bit of "stuff" that had accumulated and weeds which had grown. I made the comment to a friend that we needed to clean up this back area and spray the weeds. His response was "*Why? People don't see back here.*" I began to chastise him and then give a spiritual analogy which would later become this Thursday Thought. (He's probably glad I'm not mentioning his name) What was that spiritual analogy? His attitude, and if we are honest ours as well, are pretty similar when it comes to God and sin. We will reluctantly confess and strive to correct the sins that people can see but the sins that people don't see, we are content to leave alone. What happens when we leave these unseen sins alone is that they continue to grow and get rooted in. After a while we have a bigger mess that has done damaged. I then proceeded to let him know how many years ago this same area had been overlooked. In addition to trash accumulating and weeds growing, there was the added issue of years of leaves accumulating. Accumulation of leaves, trash and weeds also invites moisture and critters. The clean-up process began and bags of leaves, trash, and weeds were removed. What was discovered is that since it had accumulated next to the metal gym, the bottom of the metal was beginning to rust and deteriorate. If we had not taken the measures that we did, in this area that was unseen, it would have eventually caused problems in the areas that were seen. That is the same way in our spiritual lives. We need to address every area of sin, whether seen or unseen, and confess it to God. He will begin working with us to make the corrections before further damage is done. Actually God will not only make the corrections, He will make it new! **2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT) says, "This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!"**

Challenge Question: What sin is there in your life, that you are trying to hide, that you need to confess to God and allow him to make things new?

Another good verse: John 3:19b-20 (NLT) God's light came into the world, but people loved the darkness more than the light, for their actions were evil. 20 All who do evil hate the light and refuse to go near it for fear their sins will be exposed.