**MORE THAN MILKSHAKE (3)** 2022-04-03

Theme scripture:

**HEREWS 12:26-28(NLTSE)** 26 When God spoke from Mount Sinai his voice shook the earth, but now He makes another promise: “Once again I will shake not only the earth but the heavens also” 27 This means that all of creation will be shaken and removed, so that only unshakable things will remain.

28 Since we are receiving a Kingdom that is unshakable, let us be thankful and please God by worshiping him with holy fear and awe”

* *Recap:* last week we discussed how the ***devil*** uses doubt and fear to shake our world and how we can overcome doubt and fear
* This week we’ll discuss what to do when ***God*** does the shaking in our lives
* Let’s consider this radical, even shocking passage of scripture, spoken by Jesus:

**MATTHEW 10:34-39(NLTSE)** 34 “Don’t imagine that I came to bring ***peace*** to the earth! I came not to bring peace, but a ***sword***. 35 I have come to ***set a man against*** his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. 36 Your enemies will be right in your own household! 37 ***If you love*** your father or mother more than you love me, you are not worthy of being mine; or if you love your son or daughter more than me, you are not worthy of being mine. 38 If you ***refuse to take up your cross*** and follow me, you are not worthy of being mine. 39 If you ***cling to your life***, you will lose it; but if you ***give up your life for me, you will find it”***

* Let’s take a closer look at seven aspects from this passage:

***1. Peace:*** Jesus, the prince of peace (**ISAIAH 9:6**) says He’s not bringing peace. Why would He say this? Because He does not want us being at peace with the way the world does things. In other words, as Christians, we can not be OK with worldliness! We must be different!

**JAMES 4:4(NLTSE)** You adulterers! Don’t you realize that friendship with the world makes you an enemy of God? I say it again: If you want to be a friend of the world, you make yourself an enemy of God

***2. Sword:*** Jesus is referring to Himself and His word. He is the word of God that became flesh (**JOHN 1:14**).

**HEBREWS 4:12(NLTSE)** For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires

***3. Set a man against:*** If we live like Jesus and love like Jesus, sometimes even those closest to us, will reject us, like Jesus was rejected. Don’t be surprised if not everybody loves you.

***4. If you love:*** Jesus is saying that our love for Him, must be greater than our love for anyone or anything else.

***5. Refuse to take up our cross:*** we have all been called to ***give up*** something, to follow Christ and to ***“pick up”*** something, to obey Christ. (pick up meaning taking on the responsibility of what God is calling you to do in your context). If we refuse this task, Jesus says we’re not worthy of Him

***6. Cling to our life:*** do we love the things of this world more than the things of God’s Kingdom?

**MARK 4:19(NLTSE)** but all too quickly the message is crowded out by the worries of this life, the lure of wealth, and the desire for other things, so no fruit is produced

***7. Give up our life, to find life in Christ Jesus:*** this means surrendering our plans to do our own thing, in order to embrace God’s plan for our lives

* The shaking that God wants to bring over our lives is for our own good. In order to expose and remove anything that’s not of Him
* Life is more than just milkshake
* Let’s summarise these seven points, in this question:
* ***Are we willing to be shaken, as we war against worldliness, with the peace of Christ in our hearts, letting His word change us, while people oppose us, loving Jesus more than anyone or anything, and taking up our cross, as we lay down our lives, to live in His abundant life?***

**CARE GROUP DISCUSSION**

1. Besides broken down buildings etc. what other damage can earthquakes cause peoples lives?
2. If Jesus said He didn’t come to bring peace to the earth, even though He is the prince of peace, what did He come to do then? (See Matthew 10:34)
3. Consider the seven points we illustrated from Matthew 10:34-39. Share with your group, the one point of these seven, that his most relevant to your life right now and how it’s changing or challenging your heart.