

SICKNESS

You all know the feeling, you wake up and there is something in your throat. Then it spreads to your chest, and your head, and the next thing you know you're in bed absolutely useless to the people around you. I don't like being sick, but it is usually easy to tell when I am getting sick. While it might be easy to see what is going on physically a bigger question to ask is how am I doing spiritually? I want to remain in step with the Lord and avoid any "Spiritual sickness" that is going to keep me from growing closer to Him. Right now, the youth are reading Food for Faith by Richard A. Bennett. There are some great questions that Mr. Bennett asks and I want you to take a quick spiritual check-up and see where you are at with the Lord.

1. Did I ever enjoy a closer fellowship with God than I do now?
2. When I pray, am I truly having a two-way communication with God?
3. Is my life on earth really Christ-centered or is it still self-centered?

Some of those questions can be tough and only you and the Lord know what is going on inside your heart. Only you know the things that are hindering your walk with the Lord and what the Lord wants you to do. The bottom line is that the Lord loves you and He has a plan for you and He wants to use you in a mighty way. Paul talks about being a vessel for honor in 2 Timothy 2:20-26 and if you look at verse 21 it says, "Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work." My prayer today is that each of us can bring the things that make us spiritually sick to the Lord. That we can be vessels for honor, and that we can be useful to the Lord wherever He has us.

~ Youth Pastor Eli