

4/15

Where AM I?

Message CP.

- which is good for you cause you can kick me out at anytime....
- This was about the size of my kitchen and dinning table put together when I was a bachelor so I'm somewhat comfortable.
- Want to focus on what God has been dealing with me on as of lately.
Not cause I'm so—soooo special!
- This dealing was not in the form of a vision a prophecy...just a slow understanding over the last several weeks.

- Let's start !!!

- There's A question that is usually is directed in a exterior way!..

- Like:
 - Waiting for a person to come to dinner.
 - Looking for your wife in a store.
 - A child wonders off.
 - Men....Driving on gumption to a places they have only been to once before?
 - To God when things get bad?

This is the Questions?

- Where are you?** In most cases it's directed to someone else in a exterior manner.
- Son where are you Dinner is ready?
- Texting to your wife in the store..we've been in the store over 60 minutes Where are you?
- Little Jimmy (yelling) Where are you? SON
- My valiantly driving efforts going some where not using google maps.. knowing I missed a turn but seconds later my wife Where are you?
- Ever got mad at God... in tuff times... God Where are you? Even though the real question is where are you?

- Exterior question asked in important times!

- But let's turn the question inside out today?

- "Where Am I"? That's todays Title talk!

- Not a question for condemnation but for simply for location? Not geographically but spiritually as a Christian?

- Do you take the time to ask this question to yourself at least once a life time or a few times a year..

- I began a few years ago to ask it more often.

1. Why the Question Where am I?

-In good times and changing times (especially currently) you need to know where we are.

-We get many great messages from here & other platforms on where you should be in sense of direction... which is mission critical as well. But I want to spend our entire time talking about Where you are now?

-your spiritual life where is it?

-Knowing where you are helps you define things relevantly to your NOW?

-Helps you put value on where value is needed and put changes to things that need changing?

-The biggest failure I believe in one's life is thinking where we are as a individual and in reality we are not. Repeat.....

-Meaning we are "doing" life and certainly our spiritual life from over there when we are not really there but really here?

-Awareness of location, determines how you DO life and even of equal importance how others see you.. not for self acknowledgement but for effectiveness.. are you making a difference?

-Today's question is assuming you have accepted Christ into your life!

-the reminder We do not live for ourselves but for HIM?

-Intention to ask questions this question from time to time is not really for you? even through it's about you... but for HIS purpose!

-Tuff pill to swallow for most of us but it's true...

-Culture would encourage this on going question to yourself, who and where are you, to find yourself to be the best version of you?

-For a Christian, You know what a self-serving Gospel that is if we adopt that??

-that mid set will keep you stationary for most of your life.

-When Christ clearly says Find ME!!! and through ME my version of you is the best version!!!!

Repeat!!

-So this questions, where am I? In my Christianity it's a spiritual rooted question? Only you can ask it and answer it?

-If I have not asked or answered this question do you know If I facing the right direction? In that my life may not be the way God wants it to be heading?

-Christ is very keen on direction that's why one of the most important statements that echo's through our souls as believers is Christ words "Come follow me?" To act on it you need to know where you are to begin?

-Knowing where you are helps avoid getting to far out or in front on yourself?

-Some of the mind blowing things I help initiate in my own life and spend too much time or talking about things that I cannot control nor have the responsibility to change.

-In General....Knowing where you are can keep you centered from all this .

2. The over hanging truth is this.....at least God know Where You are!

-A silent sobering truth that God knows were are at all times?

-For many that is a saving Grace? Including myself!

Psalm 139 **David knew this truth.**

¹You have searched me, Lord,
and you know me.

²You know when I sit and when I rise;
you perceive my thoughts from afar.

³You discern my going out and my lying down;
you are familiar with all my ways.

⁴Before a word is on my tongue
you, Lord, know it completely.

⁵You hem me in behind and before,
and you lay your hand upon me.

⁶Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,
too lofty for me to attain.

⁷Where can I go from your Spirit?
Where can I flee from your presence?

-The designer of you knows where you are..

-Not cause of He's carries narstical need but cause he cares so much for you?

-Jeremiah 29 11-13

¹¹For I know the plans *and* thoughts that I have for you,' says the Lord, 'plans for peace *and* well-being and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. ¹²Then you will call on Me and you will come and pray to Me, and I will hear [your voice] *and* I will listen to you. ¹³Then [with a deep longing] you will seek Me *and* require Me [as a vital necessity] and [you will] find Me when you search for Me with all your heart.

-If he does not know where you are.... how can he guarantee you will find him or that he can even listen when you cry out!!

Paul believe that God knew where he was when writing

Philippians 1:6

I am convinced *and* confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will [continue to] perfect *and* complete it until the day of Christ Jesus.

-For him to know how to complete something in you.. He needs to know where you are?

-This is encouraging!

3. So the Answer for me -is really what this talk time came out of as God's been dealing with me

-Where am I?

-Over the last few years I have slowly learned to ask this question to myself?

-The answer has always been... a one word answer FINE!

-Fine!

-I am fine and that's where I AM!!!

-However, Fine of an answer was more focused on my condition more than what God's see' In my spiritual location.

--I had read the Christian Brochure and knew I was there?

-God's great to me and I am serving him doing THINGS and am comfortable where I am. Fine! Life is life I am fine? Praise God!

-Unbeknownst to me, Fine was my four letter word in my life..

-No movement just Fine!! Everything is fine!

--n the answer of WHERE AM.. I it had nothing related to location on the surface....

-Warning if your spiritual life has not grown over time...your not fine.

-No that my spiritual life was a static it was plug in. but where I was, I never moved from? Anything?

-Why no movement...No target or focus just Fine!

-Great quotes

-If you aim at nothing you will hit it every time-Zig Zigler

-Everybody is somewhere just some planned more on their..... where?

-Few months ago...Certainly a catalyst from the times we are in now with much natural uncertainty.. Appraising things!

-From somewhere the question came to me.. why not ask the Holy Spirit Where does God see me? Where AM I?

-Was my Fine not so Fine consider I've been a Christian for 30 years plus?

-Then days after I witness in my heart that the answer I had was not where HE wanted me to be?

-Thanks God he knows where I am.. but...there can be a gap. If God sees you in a different place than you think you are...It's not pass go and go to boardwalk on God's game board? It's up to you to position yourself.

-The answer didn't come within seconds but within sometime of praying and listening. **The answer was Chris you're on the Road?**

-So I wondered...Is that a location? On the Road?

-Sometime our minds look to default to complex things but God is very simple in his Truths?

-After more mediation on this answer I was getting...it began to make sense to ME?

-So follow Me in this.

-A road is made for the purpose of travel...moving?

-This implied you are heading some where in Christ? Not perfect in your steps but you are moving towards something!!

So for my two answers MY **Fine answer..** was not moving towards the best God has for me and taking the spiritual journey he's planned.

-You all know this so kick me out of your kitchen anytime now... but after that answer that was placed on my heart I began to understand when I got saved the ability to move was right there from the start and follow his Call. And Movement in my Christianity was essential.

-So let illustrate what I understood... Sorry I'm an illustrator... not a good one but one. But one.

-So I was seeking Him asking what's the difference of being fine and when was I supposedly put on this Road???

-As Julie Andrews sang once in the sound of music.

-Let's start from the very beginning!

4. Accept Christ and get place on this spiritual Road!

-We accept Christ in our life.. one way ticket to Heaven when we die.

-As a New Believer the opportunity to do great things is a new beginning hence the term born again!

-new relationship with Christ and our appetite grows towards knowing him more.,..

-A journey begins....no clear mapping just on the road!

-We continue to hear louder the asking from Christ "Come Follow Me"

-We step out in the direction of the call.

-not a vocational related call but much deeper!! -Another Message...

- YOUR CALL is Come Follow ME!

-As we start on this road of following Christ

-We are given a spiritual suit of armor... the "Armor Of God".

-To Withstand? Devil while watching the latest episode of Wicked Tuna or movie of Nacho libre while on our couch during quarenteene.

No!! when walking...to follow him?

-We all know this!

-Loins girt with truth..-Breastplate of Righteousness

-Feet shod with peace. -Shield of Faith. -Helmet of Salvation

-Sword of the spirit (word of God).

-God gives you these tools...they are tools... some times as a new Christian or even a seasoned ones...we can focus too much on one tool and not our movement or direction?

-These tools help us overcome our enemy and continue to influence for Christ.

-The enemy wants you to not move but consume?

-Be a FINE Christian that's it.

-Not moving means your are not influencing the your world and not on the road to following the call.

-We are not of this world but in it. Devil if he can go further than a fine Christian He'd

-love us to be a consuming Christian.. Self center?

-the general definition of Consumer is defined as one who uses up resources?

-not to grow or give but to just uses resources?

-Remember

-Jeff fox worthy.. you might be a redneck if?

1. Your stereo speakers used to belong to the Drive-in Theater.
2. Your boat has not left the drive-way in 15 years.
3. You own a homemade fur coat.
4. Chiggers are included on your list of top 5 hygiene concerns.

-any who!!

-You might be a Christian Consumer if?

-You intake is much greater than you outtake-do you practice what was preached?

-Major in the minors keep focus on things you'd like to change without desiring the responsibility that comes with it.

-Fluid more in the language of defensiveness than encouragement.

-Have a library of reasons why you can't serve in church.

-I can see how my answer to being a Fine Christian may have manifested if I do not truly understand all this connection?

-So there you are a new Christian as you are putting these items on. And hearing the call of Christ Come Follow Me...

-you begin to walk on the road God placed you on.. while walking these tools have the greatest potential!!

- Some Christian put the Armor on and don't walk..Kind of like my FINE answer? so these tools and armor protections become heavy and they put them down... while putting them down they are not moving but they are still on the road and open game!

-The key is moving on the road to follow him!!

--Pose the question-Where am I?

-Being a Christian and following Christ... creates your unique Journey!

-Journey Is not a hipster term or deep reinvented new age term the definition: An act of traveling from one place to another.

- That simple! If you get on this road God will never leave you where he finds you!! One place to another!!! That's your Journey.

-In the Walk our underlying mission for all of us from Christ is you are making Disciples along the way!

-BUILD HIS KINGDOM ON EARTH.

-for me for quite awhile that phrase making disciples was daunting..Had a false thinking lofty idea for the Pastor job only. Or for me Images of on the street corner yelling at people that God is here for you? Or at my old job tell co-worker before they are going to lunch that they are really HELL so please come to my Bible study?

-Discipling yes may go beyond leading someone to the Lord but actually is what we've been designed to do. Serving a relational God!

-The output this may be different for everyone of us!! Not from a pulpit
But made from a kitchen table or a cubical?

-Simple starting points...It takes time but movement is key! Movement lets the Holy Spirit guided you...

-I've found my talking points are toned the goodness of God... share it... your testimony share it....

I learned over time...Don't disqualify what you never have qualified with HIS ability in you.

-Where am I? Fine or on this road following?

5. Chris... If a My Christian Journey is the length of my life. That can be long!!! Need an Ability to sustain! Glad you ask this!!

-Your journey on these road are important to Him but he knows your walk is not a force gravitational pull (make you follow him) so how does he keep us walking?

-No real short cuts on the journey...to getting around distance.

-No vitamin to give that super energy to sprint through a marathon.

-However, You energy to walk on a rain day or a sunny day comes from one thing..

-HIS LOVE FOR YOU? That's it...

-Beyond the "Jesus Loves you" the bump sticker, or the text book/or academic concept or the last sermon you heard on God's love!!!

- It's the personal experience and organic endless feeling and truth of how much you are loved.

-When you get just a taste it's overwhelmed!!! How much he loves you. That is the energy to keep walking on this road!!

-Yes we need to speak and preach and teach about God's love for discovery purposes of truth but it's up to you to create the appetite that creates the relationship so his love will bring ultimate fulfillment so you can walk this out!

-Can't teach this love I'm talking about...

-Paul said The love of Christ which passes knowledge... the fullness of God!!!

-This same love gave Christ the energy with one step at a time holding a cross on his back Thinking of YOU!

-This Love is everything and everything in Christ comes out of it!!!

-How does this love grow in you more.. Relationship-daily devotionals prayer and worship! But also learning to Receive... for some that's tuff...

-Where are you? In receiving this Love? Everything else in your Christian walk will be tuff if you know know know this!

-I am far from great at this walk with my journey but I do know a small depth of his love for ME! I've been fortunate...

-This love should overwhelm you at times.

-When the last time tears began to fall knowing his love for you?

-Not enough time to talk about his love for you today! His love is everything and in this case the source for your energy to walk!

-Back to our Journey!

6 Terrain Walk on.

-Where am I?

-A person on the Road who is moving, needs to be aware of their terrain.

-Has your walk in the call of following him encountered ruff Terrain at time? Not a smooth level road?

-Not due by attacks of the enemy... why you have the armor of God...

-Ruff terrain cause of just life in general!

-Your terrain is only as smooth when you are positioned into connecting to a local church.

Repeat

-A local church where you are being equipped, guided by a Shepard and you are growing and relating with other believers while influencing your world for HIM?

-You hear this often from this stage....A church community is so vital to this journey.

-God wants your terrain for you journey to be smooth and straight but when WE don't learn how important solid roading is AKA "church".

-We will have more bumps than others on this road and some terrain may get bad and we begin to see suggested detours signs that are appealing!

-Signs to listening to other things outside of the narrow focus God needs from you?

-Detour signs from other teachings that are good but are the relevant to your terrain?

-Where am I?

-Mike Donehey mentions in his book that trust is so essential with God.

-God promised a lamp unto your feet not a flood light for an interstate. So on your journey you don't see miles of terrain at one time so what's in front of you is very important.

-God blessed us with only 24 hours in a day!!

-Each NEW day is now to continue walking towards your call which is Come Follow Me!

-Realize this whole thing called life is not about you but about you a Christ follower letting God work through you and in doing so he will get you closer to that abundant life.

-God would never leave you out alone on this road and not have the ability through him to run the mission which is to make disciples or simply reconcile people to God.

-The journey should not be a struggle if we keep our eyes on him. Yoke made easy Burden Light?

7. Abundant Life (destination) for a Christ Follower-Destination While On Earth.

-So if I need to know where I am?? there must be a designed destination for my outside the mission?

-God wants you in the state of abundant life as your destination on the road?

-If you are there already. That's nice..send us a nice post card....

- The God map was here before Google maps... Your map from him is the Journey it's self which starts with answering the call in your Journey God wants you to find the destination of Abundant life.

-You can only arrive at abundant life while walking on your journey for Christ.

-Your map does is not give time to the destination but only distance.

-the distance is the space between your NOW and your abundant life?

-Are you there yet? As it relates to your spiritual status of abundancy?

If so I can.. only believe it would spill over onto your natural state?

-Jesus was very clear that to give us hope that we can reach here on earth to the destination of abundant life.

Well known scripture:

-John 10:10

¹⁰The thief comes only in order to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have *and* enjoy life, and have it in abundance [to the full, till it overflows].

-2 Corinthians 9:8

⁸And God is able to make all grace [every favor and earthly blessing] come in abundance to you, so that you may always [under all circumstances, regardless of the need] have complete sufficiency in everything [being completely self-sufficient in Him], and have an abundance for every good work *and* act of charity.

-Matthew 6:33

³³But first *and* most importantly seek (aim at, strive after) His kingdom and His righteousness [His way of doing and being right—the attitude and character of God], and all these things will be given to you also.

-I believe what Jesus meant about Abundant life is more a state of being than a place with geographical boundaries. But he want you to have this destination!!

-In General Terms in life, we tend to informally gauge our lives on the notion have we arrived?
-arrive to what? In life?

-so for some this abundant life be a place a imagined place of utopia...

-for country folks Imagine of a grass field far as you can see... no weeds or misquitos just sunshine.

-cats and dogs playing together! Abundant life?

-For city folk the top penthouse to floor at the corner of easy street and delight avenue?

-For salt water lovers... an remote roadless island in the middle of no where ? Abundant life?

-If one of these imagine is your interpretation of your abundant life (which is human to vision it) subsequently you may never arrive at this place so why head for it.

- So when you hear the Jesus say it... Really is it obtainable?

-Where am I

- Most of those place are nice but are obtained by success and not through fulfillment in life?
- Are they not the same Chris? success is more a science (you do this. will happen work harder etc) but fulfillment comes out of a calling from what you were designed to do.
- I proposed to you that the abundant life is the spiritual state of being where you lack nothing.
- Loins girt with truth (you don't lack the understanding of truth)
- Breastplate of Righteousness You represent HIM cause no lack of walking with HIS righteousness.
- Feet shod with peace have so much peace in any situation that it passes human understanding!
- Shield of Faith that is enough in any situation you are called in front of .
- Helmet of Salvation No room for doubt about what God did for us and saved us and the calling to save others in our walk!!
- Sword of the spirit (word of God). You know the word and understand it as the true map within your Christ following journey!
- as a Christ Follower the armor of God ..you know how to walk in it and work in it where nothing is lacking and you are effective for HIM.
- Your natural economy is in the Growing and Giving.
- Growing in your relationships vertically with Christ and horizontal with People.
- Given daily to HIS call vertically learning hear when and where and horizontally giving your heart to serving people.
- So spiritual how close are you to this state?
- Not a question for condemnation but location in your walk.
- When people are around you do they sense what Paul spoke about in Galatians
- Fruit of the spirit love joy peace longsuffering gentleness goodness faith meekness temperance.
- Abundant life helps this type of fruit grow!
- The old analogy is a unhappy disoriented sales man is never toooo busy?

-How can we as Christian be asked to represent him and encourage others to become a Christian when our life speaks in small volumes something different?

-God wants his disciple makers to be whole. Be health be prosperous in our relationships. lack nothing!! So people can see the goodness of God and reconcile!!!

-Are you help building his Kingdom?

8. If you not even fine as a Christian?

-If you were on your journey and veered off the road...

-God cares more about what you do after the veer.

-If you've never step out to really hear the Call "Come Follow ME?"

-God knows it and wants you to move!

-Philippians 3:13-14

¹³ ¹⁴ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have made it my own yet; but one thing *I do*: forgetting what *lies* behind and reaching forward to what *lies* ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal to win the [heavenly] prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

-For some of you Christians you started traveling with a big rear view mirror... looking at the golden years the way things were?

-A good calibration (like with map-quest when you miss a turn) on your journey when things begin to get foggy on the road or even went into a ditch.

-Quick get back up calibrating check list by using **Romans 12-**

Read Romans 12 1-3 this is a good calibration 3 main simple things!!

¹ Therefore I urge you, ² brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your **bodies [dedicating all of yourselves, set apart] as a living sacrifice, not just health issue of eating too many donuts but other lusts of the flesh in all areas????** The Sin of too many holy and well-pleasing to God, *which is* your rational (logical, intelligent) act of worship. ² And do not be conformed to this world [any longer with its superficial values and customs], **but be ³transformed *and* progressively changed [as you mature spiritually] by the renewing of your mind [focusing on godly values and ethical attitudes], so that you may prove [for yourselves] what the will of God**

is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect [in His plan and purpose for you].

³For by the grace [of God] given **to me I say to everyone of you not to think more highly of himself [and of his importance and ability] than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has apportioned to each a degree of faith [and a purpose designed for service].**

1-you need your body to carry out His call on your life... take care of in

2-Know you don't know it all ... continue to transform your mind to HIS Word to keep focused.

3-You are really that special... serving others and respecting others. Love all serve all.

Heard a quote but someone regarding appraising one's self during this time we are in.

-Its' time to wake up and become conscious of the pattern that are currently unconscious that shape our life!!

-Some unconscious patterns can force you off the road. Things we've said or done..

-So I pose this question again internally

-Where am I? Are you Fine or on the road!!!?

-So I encourage you Ask this question often especially in these times WHERE AM I?

-Then once you have your answer... Ask the Holy spirit to answer where HE sees you?

-So this illustration hope was helpful was just a bunch of truths that are all connected as it relate to your Christian walk and walking the Journey He's laid out for you.

-When I believe I was a fine question I was still knowing of most of these this but with out movement the connection to all these things were not settled in my heart.

---review---quickly---

-Where are you is Sooooo Important.

-The Call is your journey focus on his HIS voice of Come Follow ME!

-Your mission reconcile people back to Christ... make Disciples.

-Start sharing your faith.. not in a grinch weird way but in a person to person way the way you were designed to relate to those around you?

-know your armor that God gave you so you can keep moving when the enemy tries to pull you off courses.

-doing so Christ has a abundant life for you. Lacking nothing!!

-Christianity if walked out is surely and adventure!!

9. Closing

-Back to the exterior question Where are you?

-Physical the answer is easy.. you not hear!! So even more you need to be on that road you are called to walk and be the church outside of here!! You'd be surprise I think most of your world is waiting for you!!!

-Yes we will be together sitting here again which is vital, but maximize your Now...God does!

-can we pray...