Problems With The Brave Face

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INTRODUCTION

- You look at the house and everything looks wonderful. Everything looks fine, and you're on the inside is dying.
- I want to talk about another facade that we put out there. And it's not hypocrisy. That's the brave face.

1 It's Counterproductive

Matthew 23:26

- The first point that I make from the scriptures is that it's counterproductive.
- You are having to gear yourself up to go out and to show something to others that's really not true.
- Why spend so much time and effort in my energies and my emotions trying to portray something when I'm actually in doing that, I'm ignoring what the problem is.

2 It Doesn't Work

Hebrews 4:13

- Second problem with a brave face, it doesn't work.
- Why is your face sad, though you are not sick? This is nothing but sadness of heart.
- All things are open and laid bare to the eyes of him with whom we have to do.
- I can't put on the brave face to God. He knows what I'm going through anyway.

3 Not the Life God Envisioned for Us in Christ

Romans 12:5–15; James 5:16; Romans 14:13

- This is not the life that God envisioned for us in Christ.
- For we, who are many, are one body in Christ and individually members one of another.
- This is a life where faults should be and can be freely admitted to each other.
- We should not fear being harshly judged.
- Judging each other is an obstacle or a stumbling block.

4 Shutting Out the Help That God Is Providing

- The reason why there's a problem with the brave face is you are shutting out the help that God is providing.
- We are to bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ.
- But if I just want to live a lie, then I've rejected that help.

5 Dropping the Brave Face: Expending Your Energy Wisely

Luke 11:9–13; James 5:16; 1 Corinthians 6:2

- First part of dropping the brave face is expending your energy wisely.
- Start by reading the scriptures properly.
- You already know what you're doing wrong. Let the Bible show you how you can make it right.
- Pray specifically. You're struggling. And don't just pray that God would help you. But that God would forgive you.
- The brave face wants me to pull back. God is asking me to draw close.

6 We've Got to Be the People That Can Help

Ephesians 4; John 13:34–35; Philippians 2:5

- We want them to seek help, and that means that we've got to be the people that can help.
- No hypocritical judging. Can't do it. Can't be a part of who you are. God won't have it.
- I am going to be hospitable to X number of people this month. There's your challenge.
- That you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **And by all means, seek out the help that He has given. Can we help you in some way?**

MY NOTES