

Retief Uys



#### 1. Intro:

Revelation 2: ...2 "I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false. 3 I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name's sake, and you have not grown weary.

4 But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first...

# [KJV] Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.

- "as you loved me at first" [chronology]
- And "my first love." [to do with priority]
- Agape love: Faithfulness, Commitment and An act of the will

....5 Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent...





#### 1. Intro: What should we do?

- 1. Listen
- 2. Remember
- 3. Conviction
- 4. Repent
- 5. Realize
  - 1 John 4:19 We love because He first loved us.
- 6. Choose [Your will]
- 7. Ask for the Holy Spirit's help
- 8. Do the things

#### 2. Foundational Elements:

#### 1. HUMILITY [Oom Johan last week]

"The essential vice, the utmost evil, is Pride.
Unchastity, greed, drunkenness, and all that, are
mere flea-bites in comparison: it was through Pride
that the devil became the devil: Pride leads to every
other vice: it is the complete anti-God state of mind."
C. S. Lewis

#### PRIDE = be like or above God

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. [Galatians 2:20]

#### **NEW CREATION**



### 3. Honesty:

#### 3.1 Definition: honest

'pnist/Submit I adjective

1. free of deceit; truthful and sincere. synonyms: truthful, sincere, candid, frank, direct, open, forthright, straight, straightforward, genuine, blunt, plain-spoken, plain-speaking, matter-of-fact, outspoken, as straight as a die, straight from the shoulder;

## "Nothing is hidden"

Relationships thrive if nothing is hidden



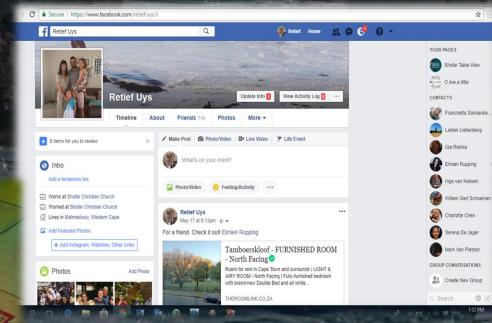
#### 3.2 GOD OF TRUTH AND HONESTY | Scriptures:

- a. **Psalm 33:4** For the word of the LORD is right; and all his works are done in truth.
- b. 2 Timothy 2:15 Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.
  - c. **Colossians 3:9** Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices...

- d. Proverbs 12:22 The LORD detests lying lips, but he delights in people who are trustworthy.
  - e. **Psalm 32:2** (ESV) Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.
- f. Our First LOVE is TRUTH: John 14:6 (NIV) Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.



## PROFILE PERSONA



THE CARPET

#### **KEY in Genesis 3:8**

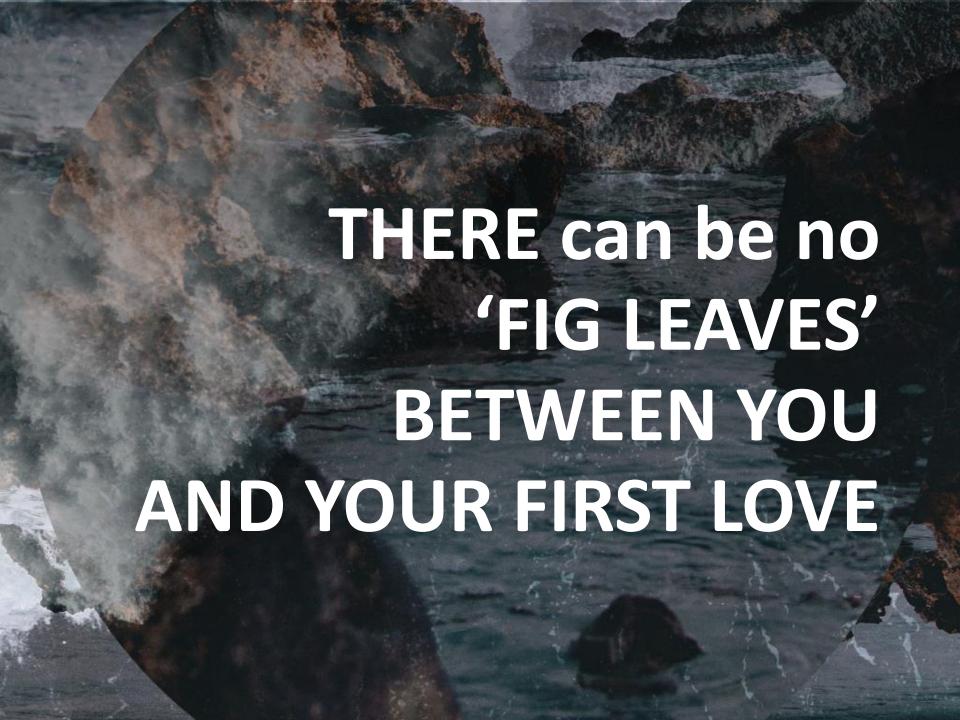
Where did the deceit and lies enter?

#### Genesis 3:8 (NIV)

Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden.



Genesis 3:8 Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. 9 But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?" 10 He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid." 11 And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"



# WHEN YOU PRAY, GOD IS NOT LOOKING FOR ELOQUENCE HE'S LOOKING FOR HONESTY.

Buddy Owens

## TESTIMONY -

FEELS
FAR
AWAY
GUESS
WHO
MOVED

TOBYMAC #SPEAKLIFE

'There are times when your greatest freedom comes from your greatest honesty before God.'

#### 'Dead Religion':

Matthew 23:25 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and the plate, but inside they are full of greed and selfindulgence. 26 You blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and the plate, that the outside also may be clean. 27 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but within are full of dead people's bones and all uncleanness. 28 So you also outwardly appear righteous to others, but within you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.

#### 3.4 Application: HONESTY

God delights when truth reigns in our inmost being (Psalm 51:6). But I don't always delight in the truth. I most certainly should, but honestly I don't. Sometimes I feel about seeking the truth like I feel about seeking the dentist. The truth might (or perhaps I already know will) expose some decay. Decay needs to be drilled out. And who wants that? Jon Bloom – Article: Be True to Yourself 5.01.18

Honesty is not always truth...

But only through honesty, can we be led back to the Truth.

#### Psalm 32:3-5

For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. Selah. I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. Selah.

Be honest with your first love and be covered

Psalm 139:1 O LORD, you have searched me and known me! 2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. 3 You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. 4 Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O LORD, you know it altogether. 5 You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high; I cannot attain it. 7 Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? 8 If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!

# #Knownforlove FIRST LOVE HONEST LOVE

