

Prophecies for November 18, 2007

Singing that song reminds me so much about how important that kind of repetition is. Bill was talking about this last week.

Anybody in this room whose marriage can be counted in decades rather than years, knows that there are times when you say, "I'm in love with you", or "I love you", or "I'm madly in love with you" and you don't really feel that way right at that moment. And you say it as much as anything to remind you, not to remind them, that you are in fact in love and it's the same thing with God. I mean there are times when it's real easy to say "Oh God, I love you. Everything is so wonderful. This is so great." But, it's equally or maybe more important to say that when it doesn't feel like everything's so wonderful and everything's so great, when you don't really feel it. The more you say it, it's not so much that you're reminding God, but you're reminding you. And as you remind yourself, it starts changing in you. Just like it starts changing you in your union relationship – it starts changing you in that relationship. And I'm just reminded that there've been times when to say, "I'm madly in love with you" to God seems like a very strange thing to say, but still is a good thing to be doing.

I'd just like to confirm that word, too. As we were singing that song, I was hearing, "You're doing it wrong. You're doing it wrong. You're doing it wrong." And I realize it's the voice of the accuser. It's not the voice of God.

You can't love God wrong. You just can't. I mean, if you're giving Him anything...it says in the Psalm give Him our righteousness. We have no righteousness and so when we're yielding our righteousness to God, we're giving Him all the crud, the junk, the filth of our lives and He's taking that and He's washing it, cleansing it in His blood and He's transforming us and making us into His image. And He's making us holy and righteous by His life, by His Holy Spirit glowing in us. So whatever you offer to God, however you want to go to Him, He's going to receive it with great joy. He is madly in love with you. And whatever you give to Him, even if it's just the words today, even if you have no feelings, you have nothing to give, to Him you say, "I have nothing. I can't do it and the accuser is going to be standing right by you saying, "Well don't do it because it will be wrong."

No! Do not hear that word. Hear the word of God, "I'm madly in love with you." And then offer what you have to God and He will receive it with great joy. And He will return it to you pressed down, shaken together and overflowing with His love.

The Lord gave me a picture of an accordion or a fan where it's all folded up. It keeps alternating and being folded up, but then it gets pressed in and folded and pushed. But it's being pushed and folded and being drawn closer into Him and that's what His love is like. We have to be changed. We have to be folded and drawn closer into Him and then it's more possible to have a greater expanse of love, as we're unfolded and stretched out to others to share His love with them. But we have to go through the folding in and pressing out first to draw close to Him, so that we have something to stretch out to others.

Shawn and I had a conversation this week about passion in our marriage and this morning I woke him up and told him I made his coffee with passion.

While I was singing that song I was hearing the words and Jesus said, “Are you going to make me coffee?” I know it sounds really silly but you know in my thinking that just reminds me that you don’t have to do something really big for God to know that, to show him, that I love him. He’s interested in the small things, the daily things, and the moment by moment things.