



WEEK FOUR
HELL'S KITCHEN
May 17 & 18, 2014
Pastor Harry Kuehl

MESSAGE NOTES

Where I'm at today doesn't have to be where I'm at tomorrow.
2Corinthians 5: 17-21 NIV

PERSONAL STUDY QUESTIONS

1. What is the most hostile environment you have ever been in? What did you do to cope with it?

Did your coping methods work?

2. What is the difference between a thermometer and a thermostat?

What did Pastor Harry mean when he said we function as one or the other?

Which one do you think you are most of the time?

3. Take a look at this week's scripture passage: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21. What kind of environment were these Corinthian Christians in the midst of?

How similar is your present "operating conditions" to theirs?

What advice or counsel did the Apostle Paul give them?

4. Pastor Harry said people often think it's their practices that bring them closer to God when in reality it's their position in Christ that removes any distance between them and God. What did he mean by that?

5. What then is our position in Christ? (See these verses for insights: (Rom 6:5-14 and Gal 2:19-20).

Can this position change?

6. How does knowing who you ARE change what you DO?

7. What do you think most people use to determine their reality?

Do you think reality shows like Hell's Kitchen are in fact an accurate view of reality? Why or why not?

8. How might Satan use a distorted view of reality to keep you from victory in a hostile environment?

How did Jesus handle the Accuser in a hostile environment? (see Matthew 4:1-11)

9. Dr. Neil Anderson wrote: "The more you reaffirm who you are in Christ, the more your behavior will begin to reflect your true identity!" How can we better affirm who we are in Christ? What are some practical steps?

Personal Meditation: If someone were to ask you to define your true identity, how would you answer them? Write down the definition that you would give them. Do you like these words are an accurate definition of who you are? Spend some this week meditating on the truth of your position in Christ. Start by reading every day this week the key passage from the sermon (2 Corinthians 5:17-21) and ask for fresh eyes and fresh ears.

Memorize Ephesians 5:8—" For once you were full of darkness, but now you have light from the Lord. So live as people of light!"