**Day 17 - First Things First**

Topical

John has been speaking about dealing with righteousness in the life of a child of God. He has said that everyone who “practices righteousness” is born of Him, and is righteous because Jesus is righteous. And we know His life is in us. (Read 1John 3:7, 10; 2 Cor. 5:21)

1. Without Christ, our righteousness (in God’s sight) is what according to Isa. 64:6?

2. Concerning righteousness, in the following verses, Jesus tells us to what?

Matt. 5:6

Matt. 6:33

Do you hunger and thirst for righteousness? Do you understand that if you are abiding in Christ, the fullness of righteousness is ours for the taking?

3. When we live a righteous lifestyle, how will this be manifested in our life? Look up the following verses in the Proverbs. On a sheet of paper, list what you learn about the fullness of righteousness in your life. You will glean understanding through the contrast being made in many of the verses. Make sure you write the verse “address” next to what you learn. Title the list: The Fruit of a Righteous Life.

10:7

10:11

10:20

10:28-30

11:18-20

11:30

12:5

12:7

12:28

13:9

13:25 (appetite=soul)

14:34

15:8-10

15:28

18:10

\*21:3, 21 (x-refs: 15:9, Matt 5:6, 1 Cor. 15:58)

29:2, 6

If time, list what you learn from other verses in the Proverbs… there are many others.

4. Read what Paul says about righteousness in 1 Tim. 6: 11-12. What are we to do according to verse 11? How does he connect it to the “real life” John has been talking about (v12)?

**Application:** How are you doing practicing righteousness? Are there some areas where you struggle or are inconsistent at best? Go to God in prayer and ask Him to strengthen you in these areas.

There were at least two Proverbs that apply to our countries we live in. You may want take some time and go to God in prayer concerning the righteousness (or lack of righteousness) in your country and in its leaders.