THE VOICE

Part 2: "Talking To Myself"

THE VOICE INSIDE OF US TELLS US THAT...

1. ...WE <u>DESERVE</u> MORE THAN WE'VE GOT (but others don't deserve what they have)

"Those who love money will <u>never be satisfied with money</u>, and those who love riches will <u>never be happy with what</u> <u>they have</u>." **Ecclesiastes 5:10** (TVB)

2. ...WE DON'T LOOK AS GOOD AS WE SHOULD (but those who look better than us are shallow and vain)

"But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Don't judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him. The Lord doesn't see things the way you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." 1 Samuel 16:7 (NLT)

3. ...WE ARE <u>MISUNDERSTOOD</u> (but we have everyone else figured out)

"He will send help from heaven to rescue me, disgracing those who hound me. My God will send forth his unfailing love and faithfulness. I am surrounded by fierce lions who greedily devour human prey—whose teeth pierce like spears and arrows, and whose tongues cut like swords." Psalm 57:3-4 (NLT)

4. ...WE ARE TRYING AS HARD AS WE CAN (but everyone around us needs to try harder)

"Be humble. Be gentle. Be patient. Tolerate one another in an atmosphere thick with love." **Ephesians 4:2** (TVB)

"Forgive other people when they sin against you. If you do, your Father who is in heaven will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive the sins of other people, your Father will not forgive your sins." **Matthew 6:14-15** (NIRV)

...WE KNOW WHAT WE ARE DOING (even when God doesn't seem to)

"And now, finally, God answered Job from the eye of a violent storm. He said: 'Why do you confuse the issue? Why do you talk without knowing what you're talking about? Pull yourself together, Job! Up on your feet! Stand tall! I have some questions for you, and I want some straight answers. Where were you when I created the earth? Tell me. since you know so much! Who decided on its size? Certainly you'll know that! Who came up with the blueprints and measurements? How was its foundation poured, and who set the cornerstone, While the morning stars sang in chorus and all the angels shouted praise? And who took charge of the ocean when it gushed forth like a baby from the womb? That was me! I wrapped it in soft clouds, and tucked it in safely at night. Then I made a playpen for it, a strong playpen so it couldn't run loose, And said, 'Stay here, this is your place. Your wild tantrums are confined to this place." Job 38:1-11 (MSG)

IF I WANT TO TAKE CONTROL OF THE VOICE INSIDE MY HEAD, I HAVE TO...

1. ...DEVELOP A HEALTHY <u>SUSPICION</u> OF MY <u>HEAD</u> VOICE

"A human heart is more dishonest than anything else. It can't be healed. Who can understand it?" **Jeremiah 17:9** (NCV)

"Only fools <u>say in their hearts</u>, 'There is no God." **Psalm 14:1** (NLT)

2. ...KEEP ASKING MYSELF, "WHERE DOES MY WORTH COME FROM?"

"So I have reason to be enthusiastic about all Christ Jesus has done through me in my service to God. Yet I dare not boast about anything except what Christ has done through me, bringing the Gentiles to God by my message and by the way I worked among them. They were convinced by the power of miraculous signs and wonders and by the power of God's Spirit." Romans 15:17 (NLT)

3. ... RE-WRITE THE SCRIPT THAT DIRECTS MY FUTURE

"Those who live following their sinful selves think only about things that their sinful selves want. But those who live following the Spirit are thinking about the things the Spirit wants them to do." Romans 8:5 (NCV)

"And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise. Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from me—everything you heard from me and saw me doing. Then the God of peace will be with you." Philippians 4:8-9 (NLT)