

Proverbs 13:5

A righteous man hates lying, But a wicked man is loathsome and comes to shame.

About fifteen years ago, I was diagnosed with Prostate Cancer, and yes the Lord has healed me, and I have been cancer free ever since. But what if I went to the doctor fifteen years ago, and even though he knew I had cancer, he just said, “*Oh, you are doing fine. You’ll live to be at least 90, if not longer*” and the reason he would have said that was because he knew that’s what I wanted to hear, even though it wasn’t true. But he was afraid that he would lose me as his patient if he told me the truth or that I would get upset with him for telling me the truth, and I would go to another doctor who would have told me I was ok, not to worry, even though it would have been a lie.

Yet, how many search for a church that makes them feel good and doesn’t cause any change in their life, at least not one that will cause them to actually stop sinning and repent of their sins.

† **2 Timothy 4:3 (MSG)** *You're going to find that there will be times when people will have no stomach for solid teaching, but will fill up on spiritual junk food—catchy opinions that tickle their fancy.*

These are the people who look for a church that doesn’t talk about the blood of Jesus, because that just sounds to gross or icky to them. They don’t want to hear that they are sinners, because they think there are others worse than them who need to hear that, but not them.

† **Zechariah 7:11** *But they refused to heed, shrugged their shoulders, and stopped their ears so that they could not hear.*

These are those who want their ears tickled and like having the title of Christian, and use that as an excuse to sin, and sin does not phase them when they commit it. But it makes them feel bad when they hear someone tell them that they are in sin, and love to use the good ol’, “Don’t judge least you be judged” verse as a scapegoat.

† **Jeremiah 6:10 (NLT2)** *To whom can I give warning? Who will listen when I speak? Their ears are closed, and they cannot hear. They scorn the word of the LORD. They don’t want to listen at all.*

You know, if I had a doctor who only told me what I wanted to hear, I wouldn’t be here right now, because I would have died from the cancer, in fact it was so severe that I only would have lived a year or two at the most if it wasn’t treated right away. But I am thankful for my doctor and for him telling me the truth, and because he did, I am healed, and God is glorified through healing me, and I can still minister to others through these teachings of God’s word because I am still here to teach His word.

† **Psalms 122:1 (KJV)** *I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD.*

That should be our attitude about going to church and finding a good church that teaches verse by verse through the bible, because when they do, it will... not might but WILL hit home so many times while you are listening to the teaching.

† **Psalm 119:116** *Uphold me according to Your word, that I may live; And do not let me be ashamed of my hope.*

† **Psalm 119:133** *Direct my steps by Your word, And let no iniquity have dominion over me.*

But if all you get is topical messages all the time, there is a good chance that they will not affect you. It's like someone only wanting to know how to be a newborn baby all the time, but never wanting to grow and be a kid, then a teenager, then a twenty-something, then an actual adult, then grow old, because all they want to know is how to be a baby, because it makes them feel good, and everyone caters to their needs. But when they start to grow up, then they actually have to do stuff for themselves and change and actually work and do things right.

† **Hebrews 5:12-14 (NLT2)** *You have been believers so long now that you ought to be teaching others. Instead, you need someone to teach you again the basic things about God's word. You are like babies who need milk and cannot eat solid food. For someone who lives on milk is still an infant and doesn't know how to do what is right. Solid food is for those who are mature, who through training have the skill to recognize the difference between right and wrong.*

So if you have not found a good church, then search for one where you can grow spiritually with them, going through the bible, and not topical messages each week, and if you have found one, be thankful that the Lord has brought you to that place to grow as a believer.

† **1 Corinthians 1:10 (NLT2)** *I appeal to you, dear brothers and sisters, by the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, to live in harmony with each other. Let there be no divisions in the church. Rather, be of one mind, united in thought and purpose.*

† **Isaiah 40:31 (NLT2)** *But those who trust in the LORD will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.*