

(TK&HK, today missed coming to air another Sunday (yesterday), as we were travelling out of town again. So, I'm playing catch up! This time, I didn't forget my laptop, thank God! We're in Phoenix, Arizona, the Desert/Sun State of the US for a vacation cum 'advance'. Note the word 'Advance', a new expression for a quiet time of seeking the Lord away from all the 'noise', as different from what I had always known/called it: 'Retreat'. True, we're all still learning, and adding to our 'language'. {No advance, no breakthrough}, is another truth I learnt at a recent Victory Churches International Conference}. While here in Arizona, we'll be going on tours of the Grand Canyon (one of the 7 modern Natural Wonders of the World}, the Desert etc; and the children want to do some of those adrenalin-rush rides, including in amphibious vehicles ... Count me out! There's fishing too, but, since it's not the kind of fishing I like to do, we'll pass...

If you have missed any TK&HK, today, or are a recent entry to our distribution list, let us know and we'll forward to you any one not yet uploaded on our work-in-progress website: kingdomlifeministriesonline.org. You may need to copy the url onto your browser to open; then click on 'newsletters' and scroll all the way down...).

Now, for the final part of the "'N' And Not Ashamed" series

Part V: "Sisters Act!"

This subtitle, "Sisters Act", is a play on the title of the famous 1992 American comedy film (and 1993 sequel, Sister Act 2), starring Whoopi Goldberg ... In the oneness, nakedness challenge in marriage, it's the wives, our SISTERS' turn, to "ACT"!

I trust that the men, as leaders of their wives and home, have done their ACT, and come 'clean' before their wives? And that the wives clothed their 'nakedness', and cared for them in their shame, embarrassment, 'sickness'? Remember one of Jesus' litmus tests for authentic Christianity:

"I was naked and you clothed me; in prison and sick, and you 'visited' (with) me; you cared for me; a "stranger", and you took me in"...

I did mine last Thursday: I can tell you it took lots of procrastination, prayer, God's grace, courage, and humility. Indeed, dying to my flesh and ego, which were all the while screaming, 'don't', and giving me many nice, religious reasons to not come clean before my Darling, one-flesh wife, Chiny. And God bless her – she forgave me, 'clothed' my 'nakedness', cared for me and gave me such support and counsel that I regretted not having come clean earlier.

It's indeed true: the devil uses secrecy and fear to keep us in his prison, and to make it impossible for us to have the best marriage that God wants us to have ... an authentic intimacy – emotional, spiritual and even physical. Plus, we can't, while in that prison, be the best that God wants us to be; be carriers and displayers of His Splendour, of His Glory, indeed! Praise the Lord, I am FREE! And, never will I go back (to secrecy); hold back (anything from her) again. Never, God helping me!

And any man who has not found the right time, opportunity or atmosphere (including courage, His grace, faith, humility) to do it yet, I pray for you today, for the Holy Spirit's help to do it, in Jesus' name!

Sisters, wives, it's your turn to prayerfully search your heart and ask, what am I hiding from my husband today? What 'secret, hidden thing(s) am I keeping from the one who is supposed to be one flesh with me? In the area of my family, relationships with the opposite gender, finances/investments (secret accounts, properties, stocks etc); business/work, career, education, health, a child from a previous relationship.....? And after coming relievingly 'naked' (clean, open) before him, make a vow to your husband that you will never again keep a secret from him. And God's all-sufficient grace will help you, in Jesus' name!

And it is our turn, as men and husbands, to 'clothe' our wives' nakedness as they ACT: comfort her, care for her, strengthen her, edify and speak blessings into her life, using our spiritual authority as the spiritual head of the wife and family!

And sisters, you will reap the rewards: you will be free indeed; you will become the best that God has purposed you to be: an oak of righteousness, the planting of the Lord for the display of His splendor; to put His Glory on display.

Sisters, let me just share these living words with you, and may the Holy Spirit speak to you afresh thro' them, in Jesus' name!

Proverbs 31:10-12; 28-31

Who can find a virtuous and capable wife? She is more precious than rubies. 11 Her husband can trust her, and she will greatly enrich his life. 12 She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life ... 28 Her children stand and bless her. Her husband praises her: 29 "There are many virtuous and capable women in the world, but you surpass them all!" 30 Charm is deceptive, and beauty does not last; but a woman who fears the LORD will be greatly praised. 31 Reward her for all she has done. Let her deeds publicly declare her praise (New Living Translation, NLT).

1 Peter 3:1-7

Wives

1 In the same way, you wives must accept the authority of your husbands. Then, even if some refuse to obey the Good News, your godly lives will speak to them without any words. They will be won over 2 by observing your pure and reverent lives. 3 Don't be concerned about the outward beauty of fancy hairstyles, expensive jewelry, or beautiful clothes. 4 You should clothe yourselves instead with the beauty that comes from within, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is so precious to God. 5 This is how the holy women of old made themselves beautiful. They trusted God and accepted the authority of their husbands. 6 For instance, Sarah obeyed her husband, Abraham, and called him her master. You are her daughters when you do what is right without fear of what your husbands might do.

Husbands

7 In the same way, you husbands must give honor to your wives. Treat your wife with understanding as you live together. She may be weaker than you are, but she is your equal partner in God's gift of new life. Treat her as you should so your prayers will not be hindered.(NLT)

All: Songs of Solomon 2:15

Catch all the foxes, those little foxes, before they ruin the vineyard of love, for the grapevines are blossoming! (NLT) May the REST of my and your marriage and life be the BEST, in Jesus' name. Amen!

Prophetic word: As dead flies cause even a bottle of perfume to stink, so a little foolishness spoils great wisdom and honor ... says the Spirit of the Lord