

St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church
Study of the Lazy Man's House – Ecclesiastes 10:18

LESSON INTRODUCTION: Dr. Kim Randall, Sunday School Superintendent

- Ecclesiastes 10:18
 - “By much slothfulness the building decayeth; and through idleness of the hands the house droppeth through.” KJV
 - “A shiftless man lives in a tumbledown shack; A lazy woman ends up with a leaky roof.” The Message
 - “Through laziness, the rafters sag; because of idle hands, the house leaks.” NIV
- Each week the ministers of St. Paul MBC will discuss a room that physically and spiritually describes a lazy man's house.

FOUNDATION AND CORNERSTONE: Dr. Randall

- Failure to maintain a house will cause decay; similarly, failure to maintain your spiritual house (body) will also cause decay. Your attentiveness – or indifference – speaks volumes about your spiritual house. Does it welcome the Holy Spirit? Would the Holy Spirit find your spiritual house attractive and want to spend time there?
- God's foundation: Beginning (time); Heaven (space); and Earth (matter).
- God's cornerstone: Jesus!
 - Is Jesus your cornerstone? Are you putting in the time and space for a relationship with Jesus? Or have you alienated yourself from Jesus allowing pride and complacency to cause cracks in your spiritual house?

LIVING ROOM: Rev. Ty Grissett

- A contrast to the Lazy Man's house – a Worthy Man's house (Matthew 10:11-14)
 - The disciples were instructed to find homes that belong to worthy (welcoming) persons and abide there.
 - The disciples were instructed to bring greetings (salute) when they entered the home.
 - The disciples were instructed to let their peace come upon the home.
 - The disciples were instructed to leave the cities if they were not welcomed!
- The Living Room is usually the first room that people see – it sets the atmosphere of the house.

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- In the Lazy Man's Living Room:
 - Anyone is welcome; however, everyone that enters may not have a kind and good spirit.
 - Anyone is allowed to stay; however, everyone that stays may not contribute to the upkeep or bring anything worthy to the room.
 - Anyone is allowed to leave; however, some people should be asked to stay (those who wish you well and want the best for you).
- In our Living Rooms, we should:
 - Watch who we let in.
 - Watch who we allow to stay.
 - Watch who we allow to leave.

DEN: Rev. Shelia Anderson

- The Den is the room where we relax, recline, and retreat from the world.
- The Den is also where we can become complacent and distracted from our primary purpose as Christians.
- In the Lazy Man's Den:
 - We become too relaxed, we let our guards down, and the enemy finds an opening.
 - We become distracted – from God, bible study, and prayer – and begin focusing on what we think is important and about what others think of us.
 - We become undisciplined – we spend too much time watching TV, browsing and posting on social media, and playing games and other activities on our electronic devices.
- We should use our Dens to:
 - Devote more time to God – honor God in your Den, thank him for giving you your Den through bible study, prayer, and worship.
 - Devote more time to our families – don't get distracted! Focus on those things that truly matter in your life.
 - Devote more time to exercising self-control – don't rob God of your time, talents, and treasure. Commit as much time to God as you commit to your TV, social media, and devices, use your talents, and pay your tithes.

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KITCHEN: Evangelist Stephanie Long

- In the Lazy Man's Kitchen you will find:
 - Unclean stoves with leftover food and grease, which leads to ants, unpleasant aromas, and unsafe cooking areas.
 - Unclean refrigerators that contain old and moldy food and have dirty exteriors.
 - Dirty sinks with food and unwashed dishes that may lead to clogged pipes that don't allow water to run freely.
- Our Kitchens should have:
 - Clean stoves free of leftover food, grease, and aromas. The Word of God keeps us clean with pleasant aromas. What kind of aroma are you giving off?
 - Clean and fresh refrigerators free of old and moldy food. The Word of God keeps us fresh and revived.
 - Clean sinks with unclogged pipes. We should strive to lead an "unclogged life" of reasonable service to God.

BATHROOM: Evangelist Sherry Bostic

- The Bathroom plays an important role to our physical bodies; consequently, it must be cleaned regularly.
- The Lazy Man's Bathroom:
 - Is dirty and it stinks – because the Bathroom fixtures (sinks, tubs, showers and toilets) are not cleaned regularly. Without regular cleaning the Bathroom can make the whole house smell bad.
 - Is not cleaned with products such as Bleach, Comet, or Mr. Clean that rid our Bathrooms of dirt and smells.
 - Is not a place where you want to spend time.
- Our Bathrooms (and our spiritual houses) should be:
 - Clean - The Word of God tells us that nothing but the blood of Jesus can wash away our sins.
 - Fresh smelling with the use of proper cleaning products. The Word of God tells us that the wages of sin is death, and we know that anything dead will stink.
 - Peaceful – relaxing items such as reading material, Epsom salts, pillows, and candles can be therapeutic when we make use of our Bathrooms. The Word of God says that he will keep you in perfect peace for those whose mind is stayed on thee because he trusteth in thee.