

A.M. SERMON NOTES
7/5/2024

BEING "A LITTLE LEAVEN"

INTRODUCTION - (Luke 13:20-21) "And again He said, To what shall I liken the kingdom of God? It is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal till it was all leavened."

(1 Corinthians 5:6) "Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump?"

(Luke 12:1) "... Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy."

W.E. Vine: "Leaven, sour dough, in a high state of fermentation, was used in general in making bread. It required time to fulfill the process. When food was required at short notice, unleavened cakes were used."

Merriam-Webster: "A substance (as yeast) used to produce fermentation (as in dough); something that modifies or lightens; to raise (dough) with a leaven; to permeate with a modifying or vivifying element."

Wendell Winkler: "In this parable Jesus uses leaven as a symbol of the wholesome influence of His kingdom, the church."

We, as leaven, are to influence others in Christian living and in preaching the word of God.

1. LEAVEN WILL INFLUENCE - it's leaven!

You and I are to be a Christian influence in our world.
(Romans 12:1-2) "And do not be conformed to this world"

2. LEAVEN HAS TO BE MIXED WITH THE SUBSTANCE THAT'S TO BE LEAVENED

(John 17:15) "I do not pray that You should take them out of the world" and
Jesus prayed, (v20) "for those who will believe in Me through their word"
(Matthew 28:18-20 and Mark 16:15-16) "Go into all the world"

3. A "LITTLE" LEAVEN LEAVENS

(1 Corinthians 12:21-22) "those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary." - all the body members are needed to work together.
(1 Corinthians 3:6-8) "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase."

4. LEAVEN WORKS SLOWLY AND PERSISTENTLY: (Galatians 6:9)

5. LEAVEN DOES NOT CALL ATTENTION TO ITSELF: (Matthew 5:16)

6. LEAVEN (INFLUENCE) COMES WITH A WARNING: don't do this!

(Luke 12:1) "Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy."
(Matthew 23:1-39) The whole chapter is Jesus' rebuke of the Pharisees' hypocrisy.
"Woe" is used 8 times: (v13, 14, 15, 16, 23, 25, 27, and v29)