

Prayer Week
Veils and Scales
12/07/19
Newport News Campus

Opening

-somebody say “veils and scales”

-I know, “scales” is the bad word this time of year...different kind though!

Veils

-2 Corinthians 3:13-16

- Not a sermon on glory of God revealed through us...
- Not a sermon on all the ways our minds and hearts harden...

-read verses 13-14

-Veil is a metaphor for a condition we all have with our minds and hearts.

- Minds = ability to comprehend (learn, understand, revelation)
- Hearts = ability to desire (long for, crave, unfulfilled without...)

Our natural minds and hearts as human beings are limited when it comes to understanding and desiring spiritual things.

-Think about how confusing the Bible was before you became a devoted follower of Christ!

-Think about the things you get excited for now that would have been laughable to you then! (joke about Encounter Night...Youth Camp)

-read verse 16

- Explain what happens at a wedding with the veil...
- Talk about the lifting is so we can see the bride...

When we make a vow of devotion to Jesus, He lifts the veil! Our minds are now able to comprehend things that were formerly indiscernible and our hearts are now able to desire things there were formerly laughable.

Scales

-Acts 9:10-19 (just read 17-19)

-Luke here uses "scales" in the same way Paul uses the metaphor of "veils"

-1 Corinthians 1:18-25

-1 Corinthians 2:9-14

This experience of veils being lifted and scales falling away however is not a one-time occurrence. There is the first time and then there is our lifetime...of more layers to follow.

-1 Corinthians 3:1-4

-(Revelation 3:15-18 is another great text about how we can be oblivious to our spiritual condition)

Band and Prayer Teams

-(talk about all the people that just want me to stop talking so they can pray!)

-If you've never made a vow of devotion to Jesus...

-As I was praying about tonight, I had such a sense from the Holy Spirit that there were people here who had veils and scales when it comes to prayer.

- Doubts, questions, confusion, disbelief...about prayer!
- No desire, no longing, no interest in prayer!

-Teaching and instruction have little effect on veils and scales...it requires encounter and experience!