



THE PASTOR'S VOICE

Insights from Church Leaders

The Pastor's Voice Podcast Season 3: Episode 9

Transcript: The Power of an UnAdulterated Heart

Reuel Sample: We just moved here to North Carolina from our home in Tennessee, so I'm still getting used to this house, but in our old home in Tennessee, I had a room downstairs in the basement where in the evening or in the morning you go downstairs, you close the door and you're in pitch darkness. And I would go there in those times when I realized, just as you're saying, that I was going to God with a list of petitions instead of going just to listen. And you're right, sometimes you got to get away from everything. Right. And when you are sitting alone in the pitch black. Listening for God and listening to God, it is a tough thing to do, especially for Americans. When we're trying to when we're trained to do, you know, everything that a moment sitting is a moment wasted and doing what you're suggesting is going and listening and and being and just being with God. Why do you think most people don't do that?

Rachel Herrington: Because they don't know how to rest? Nobody knows how to rest anymore. They they think that resting is autopilot. I know this because I, that is how I got burned out is because my resting was autopilot. Specifically, I would come home from all of that busyness because, like you said, Americans, very, very busy multitaskers, OK? So with that and the digital age like technology is awesome, but it's also very distracting. And it makes us multitask a lot more because we're answering phone calls, answering texts, answering emails, having having social media right at our fingertips than the TV. There's there's tons and tons of options of television to watch, you know. Think about like way back in the day, back in Jesus's time, there was not all of that distraction. There's so much. There's there's too many options and all of this, our minds

get so jumbled and and we I know that for myself when I come home from a long day. The last thing that I want to do is think more. So I think the problem is. People think that getting with the Lord will will be more work. It's more work, it's reading. The Bible is work, you know, worshipping work that, you know, learning work. All of that is more work, so they don't want to do it. But that is a misconception because the most amazing times that I've had with the Lord are times where I am just resting in his presence, just sitting there with with the music on quieting my mind and thinking about him and talking to him like he's my friend because he is, we need to. We need to learn how to rest in the Lord. It is so important to our growth. It sounds so contradictory, doesn't it? Like the biggest way to grow is to slow down.

Reuel Sample: Well, we often forget that rest. The Sabbath is a creation mandate and a creational gift is that God gave us rest. He ordered us, commanded us to rest and we don't do. When we don't do that, it, it affects everything

Rachel Herrington: It really does. It really does. You're right. He did. He commanded it. And he he was an example. He was an example of rest. He also rested. You know, God, the creator, he didn't need to. He he does not need to rest. He does not weary or get tired. But he rested to show us how important it is like it's it's mind blowing. How we just act like that is can be pushed to the side. I could rest or I couldn't rest. It's cool. No, it is massively important that you rest and you need to to rest your eyes from things that don't matter too. And like I said, with autopilot, that's it's such it's so dangerous. It's so dangerous to get into the habit of of autopilot, like coming home from work and then just turn on the TV coming home from work and sitting down and scrolling through your phone. Coming home from work and sitting down and playing video games for the rest of the evening. It's very, very dangerous to get into that habit because then here, like, think about it for real. Be honest with yourself. What are your priorities? Work. I get it. It's essential you need. You need to earn a living and make money. Totally understand. Ministries. You were called there. Sure. Do it, absolutely. But when you get home, what is your priority? Is it your flesh? Is it to pamper your flesh and to sit down and like, watch your favorite show or like whatever play video games or whatever? Because if it is, I would really just challenge you to examine your heart and ask the Father to create a hunger inside of you again, because maybe you lost it.

Reuel Sample: How can the church help with this? You started by saying, We have a problem with the American church, and I absolutely agree with you. I was a pastor in the American church. How can the American church help people not only understanding this concept of rest, but understanding this concept of needing time with God that's going to the secret place and helping people get this spirit of power that you are so filled with.

Rachel Herrington: Oh man, thank you. Yes, I I think that the church could help by demonstrating the excitement of it. Pastors need to get childlike again. Maybe some pastors need to get back into a little bit deeper of a secret place as well. Not saying that they're not. Absolutely, I'm sure that they are, but to even go deeper, expand their minds, maybe take God out of a box. If they've placed him in some sort of denominational box that he lives in, maybe take them out a little bit to breathe, and maybe God will fill them with some new revelation. And maybe like, I think that. With with the power, it's important for us to be always growing and demonstrating. Holy Spirit power, because the great commission, Jesus said his words, and I just don't understand how people can think that it ended with the early church, with that, we should be laying our hands on the sick and they will recover, casting out demons in the name of Jesus that raising the dead. That's pretty intense. Prophesying. Paul was like very intent and and talking about the fact that everyone should desire to prophesy now, not saying that everybody should just now be a prophet. Nope, that's not it. But prophecy is edifying. It's very like it's relying on Holy Spirit to give a word to somebody that you're speaking to that otherwise you wouldn't have known that they needed.

Rachel Herrington: So I think what it is to is that we need to not think that it has to do with us. We're not so spiritual. Like, I'm not I'm not this hyper spiritual person that is special in some sort of way, and I've received some sort of amazing power that people can't know. I'm I'm just a little country girl from Green County who just so happens to love Jesus with their whole heart and want to press in for everything that he has for me. If we could just expand our minds and think that maybe, just maybe we don't know everything that there is to know about God and like kind of put down our pride a little bit. I think humility is huge. We need to, you know, maybe get a little bit more humble before the Lord and admit that maybe we could be wrong about some things and then allow him to shape us, you know, be humble enough to admit that he's so big that he just might want to work through me in ways that I really wouldn't understand

Reuel Sample: Or perhaps might not even like.

Rachel Herrington: Yes. Maybe it'll make us a little uncomfortable. You know, like, we need to get a little uncomfortable. I think, you know, to to open our minds and and be less judgmental because that's that's another thing that that Christian, the church in general, the whole denomination thing where we're so judgmental towards each other sometimes. Oh, they you know, they worship with the hymns, so they are boring or something like lack of power and then all them over there, they're raising their hands, singing Hallelujah with the guitar. So they're, you know, hyper spiritual. They're not. They're praising themselves. How about everybody? Just knock it off and quit judging each other and just seek the Lord on their own and let God deal with all of that other stuff. Like it's none of our business if their worship is different than ours and we don't think it's the right way. Like here, here's the here's the bottom line Do you believe that Jesus is the son of God and that he died for your sins rose from the dead so that you can be made right onto the Father? Oh, you do? Cool. Then we have the same exact purpose, and that's to bring more and more people to be saved. Not worry about these things that divide us, such as the way we worship or something like that. I mean, if it's demonic. Ok, let's check each other in the spirit and like, you know, approach them in love. But we need to love each other better. We need to grow

Reuel Sample: The worship wars of the 1990s and the early 2000s accomplished, accomplished nothing. They had accomplished nothing except put walls up between churches and between Christians. And exactly at the moments when we didn't need those walls, we needed to be united to face the issues that that that we have.

Rachel Herrington: Exactly like, how are we supposed to show America what a united church is? If we can't, even if we're getting so wrapped up in like, oh, you know, they are speaking in tongues and that should be in the olden days or whatever. It's just I'm just as an example, but like we, you know, we need to just get out of our own way sometimes and allow God to just do what he wants to do for goodness sake and then just love each other. Because here's the deal. If we could all just think about growing in love, then all of those things would fall into place because love isn't jealous and like holding a record of wrongs and like, love isn't like, you know, just being all judgy and all of that like pointing out mistakes and all of that. It's love is is approaching somebody if if

they're really checked by Holy Spirit, like. I think that was actually way out of line or something like that. There's a healthy way to approach it, but just judging other churches outwardly like speaking about it and that is that's not OK, you're in the wrong men. If you're being outwardly judgmental about another brother or sister, then you are in the wrong because he like he says, I think it's in first, John. I'm not very good. That's one thing. I know so many scriptures and I never know where they are, and it's OK. It's it's all good. God said it was fine, but like it. If you can't even love your brother or sister, then how are you supposed to love the unbeliever?

Reuel Sample: Well, exactly. In scripture even says never, ever, ever take a Christian to court. Why? Because it it airs the differences in the Christian body that outsiders should not see. And it's along the same exact lines that you were talking about. Now, Rachel, you've covered a whole bunch of things, but one of the things I ask you to do today is to prepare a message for the people of God. What is your word for us today?

Rachel Herrington: I love it. So my main message to the people of God. It comes from Revelation 2 and Matthew, 18, that we need to not forsake our first love. We need to not take advantage of the grace that we have received. We he's looking for those that burn with passion for him. The way we can do this is by coming like him as a child again. My podcast called UnAdulterated heart is because we need to un-adult ourselves. Sometimes we get we get so bogged down by being an adult that we forget how to imagine. We forget how to create. So we need to humble ourselves again, walk with him in the garden like he intended from the beginning. Whatever it is that is holding you back, just repent and fully accept his forgiveness. Some of the hardest things to do is to forgive yourself. But here's the thing here's here's something to challenge somebody. If God has forgiven you, if you've repented of a sin specifically, you know, say, say you were sleeping with your fiancée and you know that you should not be until married and you repented of it and you're turned away and you're no longer doing that thing. Then he no longer sees you doing that thing.

Rachel Herrington: He's forgiven you. If you hold yourself to judgment, then pretty much what you're saying. You're calling him a liar by saying that he is. Because if you can't forgive yourself and you're holding onto it, it's a it's a something that is you're now holding yourself back because he has forgiven you. You should be set free. Whoever Christ sets free, you're free, indeed. So just be free. There's no condemnation in those

that are in Christ. No shame, no shame. So shame is a lie. And so after after you realize that he isn't annoyed and irritated with you and that he truly forgives whenever you ask for forgiveness, then you can really, truly walk in freedom and then you can walk in your destiny knowing that he is for you fully because you're not a slave, you're his child. So you have to strive. You don't have to strive to be a child. You can't make him love you any more than he already does right now. When your conscience is clear. Life with him is exciting, and it's like 1000 percent easier to walk the Christian walk when you are in love and you recognize who you are as a child and your authority in Jesus.

Reuel Sample: Hmm. It doesn't get any better than that. Rachael Harrington, how can people help you support you or pray for you for your podcast?

Rachel Herrington: Oh yes, please. All I ask is pray for wisdom guidance. Always. This is fully led by Jesus. I allow him to take take a hold of every single episode. So just wisdom and go on and subscribe. Really, that's about it. I just covet prayers because it's all Holy Spirit led, and truly, I'm doing it only to reach the people who God wants me to reach. And that's it. It's not for me, it's for him. So prayers and subscribe. If you're if you're blessed by it and thank you,

Reuel Sample: That's the UnAdulterated Heart podcast and you are on Apple Podcasts and all the other major ones as well. Make sure that you check the show notes the links will be there. And folks, listen, all you have to do is put your earphones in, listen to her podcast and you'll be able to touch a light bulb and light it up. I'm telling you there's there is there's there's that much power flowing here, so. Rachel, it has been an absolute joy and a privilege talking to you. May God bless you and your ministry.

Rachel Herrington: Thank you so much. It has been such an honor. So excited. Thank you for having me on today.