

Monday, January 4, 2016 - Too Close to the Edge

One of my favorite people goes to church with us. She is a very sweet lady, and very knowledgeable in scripture. In addition to those qualities, what has endeared her to me through the years is she worries about me. When I preach, I wander around the platform and she cringes every time I get too close to the edge for fear that I'm going to fall off. Her concern for my well-being is very sweet and very much appreciated.

Why don't people think it is sweet and show appreciation when concern is shown for ones spiritual well-being?

I cannot count the number of times proclaimers of God's word are accused of being mean spirited, nasty, unkind, etc. for declaring the whole counsel of God because of their concern for the spiritual well-being of others.

Acts 20:27 - For I shrank not from declaring unto you the whole counsel of God.

Paul had told them all of God's will and held nothing back. He had sought to please God, not men. Christians must teach the whole counsel of God today.

Ephesians 4:15 - ...speaking truth in love, we may grow up in all things into him, who is the head, even Christ...

The Christian must speak the truth in love. We must have integrity. The Christian must teach the truth in love. In order to teach the truth in love one must be loving. Everything the Christian does must be motivated by love and purity of heart. When a Christian is motivated by love, they will grow to be what Christ wants him to be and will honor Christ, who is the head of the body, the church.

Do you love and appreciate those who share the truth with you or would you rather take your chances by living too close to the "edge?"