Ep_58_Faulty_Messages_and_Truth

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faulty teachings, church impact, betrayed wives, marriage problem, sexual availability, self-control, spiritual crisis, emotional trust, spiritual bypassing, divine authority, biblical women, emotional confusion, divine promises, spiritual discernment, emotional suppression

SPEAKERS

Lyschel, Pam B., Bonny

Lyschel 00:00

Music. Hi. I'm Pam Blizzard from recovered peace, and I'm Lachelle Burkett with hope redefined,

B Bonny 00:08

and I'm Bonnie burns of strong wives. We're so glad you're joining us. Welcome to another episode of hope for wives. Today we're discussing faulty messages women have received from church or society's teachings and how these teachings have impacted betrayed wives. Proverbs 31 eight through nine, and the message says, Speak up for the people who have no voice for the rights of the down and outers. Speak up for justice for the poor and the needy, and that's what this episode is about, giving you words and a voice to move towards clarity. So ladies, let's just jump in and talk about what faulty teachings are women exposed to

Lyschel 00:59

before we dive into that, I feel like it's important for us to give a disclaimer that there is no hate in our spirit or our hearts towards no church in and of itself. And I know that oftentimes we'll use church as a very broad term. Some people would use it as a little c church, Big C church, right? But understanding that there is human flesh that is a part of the things that we're about to discuss right there, though, that's kind of the part that's playing into this. So we understand that there's lots of variables when it comes to these teachings, like, well, you misunderstood it, or it was a season of life you were in, etc. I'm not excusing, I'm not placing all that out there as excuse, but I think I am trying to extend levels of grace the teachers, those who are going to potentially talk about those who are delivering the information, and then also for those who are receiving the information,

Bonny 02:00

yeah, no. Spirit of hate, no. Totally agree. Yeah. And I'm glad you said that for everyone to know that Yeah. And I think, I think our listeners know, I know new listeners join all the time, but I think our listeners know our hearts that we love and want the best for everyone. But you're right, flawed humans get into the pulpit, and flawed humans hear messages so, but we just want to clarify things and bring truth. So moving back into the question, what? So? What are some faulty teachings you remember hearing or receiving and or Fauci teachings. You've heard your community members talk about

Pam B. 02:46

that if he fails, it's partially her fault. If she's suffering. She's supposed to suffer for Christ, if she, if she just continues to pray over her husband that he'll change

Lyschel 03:02

things that come to mind when you ask this question, Bonnie, is that this is a marriage problem, not an individual problem, and so I've had women who the support that they're receiving through their faith communities, that's the way that it's addressed, is, how do We fix the marriage because it's a marriage problem. Other faulty teachings, I think, that are out there, or misunderstandings, miscommunications, is we've all, we've all heard this one, that it's about sex, right? And if you're not sexually available, that's part of the problem, especially through seasons of life where we're having children, we're breastfeeding, we're bearing life, and we're not available. So oftentimes those are directly correlated, that you're not available, therefore he has to go get his needs met somewhere. I think another faulty teaching I've heard from really popular Christian authors is that he has a need for release on a schedule within I think it was every three days. And if that's not happening, right, there's high likelihood that he will seek out that on the other side. And I'm so sad about how barbaric that makes men sound it's not really about, I mean, yes, it's painful about the wife feeling like she has that level of responsibility, but like, even that he would have such low levels of self control, or, you know, that he's just a caveman and he's just going around and doing all these things, because there's nothing more about him. He's just so simplistic and there's no complexities. And I just don't think that that's accurate, either or faulty understandings communications around do whatever it takes, do whatever it takes, to save this marriage. Recently, was walking with a woman who went to actually a retreat, and that was the whole intent of her as a wife, you know, just minimize. Essentially the physical abuse that was even happening in her relationship in order to salvage that marriage, that relationship, so do whatever it takes.

B Bonny 05:11

Yeah, and the message I heard for me, personally, a godly wife, doesn't get very angry. She has that gentle, quiet spirit. She's not allowed to be angry. Yeah, I agree with everything you all have already said, and that's really the only one left for me to to add, is that you have a Oh, and the other one is you have a wicked and deceitful heart. So you cannot trust your emotions, you cannot trust your gut.

Pam B. 05:40

Or, how about cherry picking only part of the Bible verse about Wives submit to your husband, which is really only just a few words of the entire context of that verse, but they love to pull those words out and and provide that as some sort of guidance,

- Bonny 06:03
 right? So how do these faulty teachings or miscommunications influence a woman? How do they make her feel
- P Pam B. 06:13 frustrated, sad,
- 06:18 lonely,
- P Pam B. 06:20 unheard, unseen, unsupported, angry, betrayed,
- Lyschel 06:30

I think even a word you didn't say. Pam was confused. Yeah, the confusion, you know, oftentimes what I see as a result of these faulty teachings and a woman's reality, she has a really difficult time reconciling her the pain that she's navigating and potentially that what we refer to as spiritual bypassing, right, pray harder, forgive, move forward all these pieces of you know, things that she's being instructed to do by those who are in spiritual authority with her and and respect like, not even just authority, like she respects these individuals and, and we're not just speaking them in I mean, we've had women who've talked about having female small group leaders and pastors wives, etc, that have, you know, said to her, You know, if you're more sexually available and if you are not as frustrated and angry, this will switch like there's just a lot of minimization of her reality. And I think that's part of what then starts to usher women into this place of spiritual crisis. Because what ends up happening is we start to assume that what these humans are saying to us and the teachings that are being shared is also God's that's that's God's voice, and it puts us in a place of crisis and confusion. Mm,

Bonny 07:55

hmm, yeah. And what you just said, there is what we were talking about in the beginning, that human beings are flawed, and their words are not necessarily God's, and it takes a high level of discernment to be able to pick those things apart too, and when you're in trauma, brain, that

discernment sometimes is not available. The other what I felt and what I've heard other women talk about is a hopelessness if I can't trust my gut, if I'm to be this person that feels like diminished, if I have to diminish myself For him,

- P Pam B. 08:37 that's crushing,
- B Bonny 08:41

and I think it can grieve the Holy Spirit within you. It's just creates chaos and internal conflict. What Why does it if this feels so hard, how can it be loving, if this feels so hard, so and it does go back to the message of suffering for Christ, suffering for good, right? What's where's the line? You know? Where's that line of suffering versus soul crushing? Well,

Pam B. 09:09

and not even just suffering. I had one woman come to me and say, I went to my church. We went to the pastor, and the pastor's wife and the pastor's wife gave me some advice, but in this case, there wasn't just sexual betrayal, there was also other behaviors that were damaging, that were verbally abusive and financially abusive, and the pastor's wife told her To do the Love Dare that if she just prayed for her husband every day and was caught and showed him kindness, that he would change. And that's quite magical thinking, really. And what she was doing is she was enabling. This behavior and confirming and rewarding this damaging behavior on the part of of the husband, and so that was that wasn't just disappointing or conf it wasn't just disappointing or confusing. It always damaging. It didn't keep her safe.

Lyschel 10:21

The one additional thing I'll add to about the Fauci teachings influencing a woman is, I think that when faulty teachings are swirling around, a few other things can happen. One, it's a breakdown of her intuition. She's coming in, and she's attempting to sit with people that she regards and respects. She's looking for validation, but she's also saying, Hey, this is my experience, or this is what I'm feeling, and I need help discerning this, right? And so when she's given something that's not that's very counter, it starts to break down her gut, right? She just can't trust her gut anymore. And you know, some people would refer to that as the Holy Spirit, like there's lots of denominations that you know can speak into the different things. And I, I do want to speak, I do want to mention this too, side note. I personally have not come from a very legalistic background, and I know that there's even stronger expectations and stronger teachings around women in their position and their value and worth in the kingdom of God that is very different than what I've even experienced. I've had women say things to me, and I think my mouth just falls open and I'm like, Are you kidding me right now? Like, I don't even understand how that's healthy. So I just want to say that for listeners who maybe have even experienced something much more confining and minimizing than even the examples that we shared. But so the other thing I think that with the faulty teachings and how it influences us as women, is it steals. It steals our authority in Christ. And when you're allowed to go explore

women of the Bible, or when you take when you make that choice to go explore women of the Bible, and you begin to see the level of influence and the level of regard that God and Jesus have had for women. You start to see, oh, we're a force to be reckoned with, like we are game changers, we are life givers, physically, but also emotionally, you know, relationally, etc. I mean, how many women would say I'm in charge of our social connections to the world? My husband would sit in that chair and watch football all weekend. We'd never have any friends if it wasn't for me, right? Like, that's part of who God made her to be, and I think that's part of what also makes this so heart wrenching for me. When I think about how there's false teachings or faulty teachings out there, maybe I keep saying false, faulty teachings that begin to take away who she was meant to be in Christ, and that matters

Bonny 13:19

Absolutely, and that's a beautiful segue into our next topic, or our next Our next question is, what is the truth that counters these faulty teachings? So you were, you were talking about the women's influence, even on Jesus and and how important they were to his ministry. I'd go back to Genesis, because the King James Version, it translates either connecto as help meet this little lady who shows up to, you know, make sure his ties on straight and to, you know, make sure the shoes are shined and the shirts are pressed. Okay. I'm being, being a little snarky, but easier connecto is such a powerful word. Easer is used in the majority of the Old Testament to describe God. God is a military helper. So the woman is being described as a strong, strong help, and then connecto, a warrior. Yeah, and connecto means equal. It's, it's a it's kind of like face to face, if you're looking it's an equal but opposite, where we fill in the gaps for that men have, and men fill in gaps that we have, but we are equal, but opposite warrior counterpart. We're so much more than just a little help me, we are warriors, and I think if we know that, that's what was. Created for us in Genesis. It's the fall that has created this faulty teachings, but we were created to be so much more. And

Pam B. 15:11

I think the truth is also the falseness that we sometimes believe is that God is the church and the church is God. And I had one woman say to me, as we were talking through some of these complex things that we're talking about today, and untwisting and teasing apart these things, is she said, I feel like I'm betraying my faith if I go against what the leaders of the church are telling me what the pastors and my group of people are telling me. And I said, No, not at not at all. You're not betraying God. You're not saying no to God. You're saying no to these human beings over here. And that was something that she really had to think about. And her eyes kind of lit up a little bit, but we do, we tend to to merge and conflate the two.

Bonny 16:08

Mm, hmm, yeah. I think the truth is we need to do our own study. I did come from. I wasn't raised in a fundamentalist church. I attended a fundamentalist church for 30 years, and I will say my particular congregation was always encouraged to do their own studying, even from the pulpit when they were teaching things, it was go do your own study and come to your own conclusion. And unlike most of the people in there, I did. I did. I had a little rebellious spirit there. No, it wasn't rebellious. It was Holy Spirit discernment. That's what that was. But, yeah,

do your own Deep Dive. Yeah, the words of men, some men, some words of human beings are are godly and wonderful, and some are not to do your own study. Yeah, you have the mind of Christ. You can figure it out. Amen.

Lyschel 17:13

Amen. God. I think that's great. I think it's important, yeah, I think it's important to reiterate that again. Bonnie, like that was probably one of the hardest things that I wrestled with, just from a faulty teaching that was given to me as a child, was you don't question the pastor and you don't question God. I wouldn't tell you that when that faulty teaching was handed to me, it was very thought out, right? It was more of like a I was annoying this person, and they were just trying to get me to stop asking so many questions, right? So while it was, there was probably a level of innocence behind it. It stuck with me,

17:52 the story of Gideon,

Lyschel 17:55

right? And I've referred to Gideon before, but that was just such a game changer to me, to be able to see the way that there was permission for different individuals throughout the Word of God who sat in uncertainty and confusion and asked God for clarity, or asked him to show one more time. Or can you lead me a little bit for like it? It started to shift my understanding of what my faith was supposed to look like, or could look like, maybe not supposed to, but could look like, which was, you're going to love me when I'm questioning, and you're going to love me when I'm dancing, and you're going to love me when I'm tired, and you're going to love me when I lay down and say, I can't do it anymore. You can watch the Lord do that with all of these different individuals throughout the Word of God, like he shows that there's no less love for Gideon and moments that he's going, okay, wet fleece, dry ground, okay, okay, okay, dry ground, wet fleece, whatever the order is, right? He totally. He met him in that place, and I think that's part of my hope for listeners, is that they would begin to consider wrestling with God instead of wrestling with man, right? Yeah, beautiful. Go back there. Now I recognize I'm saying, do you go wrestle with somebody you know? Go wrestle with God when you're so tired and holding all the rest of those things together around you, but he's going to meet you in that space like he knows that you're he knows where you're at. He knows what, what your capacity is, what your margin is. So wrestle with him and the scripture that I felt like I needed to bring to the conversation as we were, as you had presented this topic, Bonnie was the other thing that I've had women and even in my own spiritual crisis, is struggling to believe that God, God's promises are for me, because I'm a woman, right? There's a lot of can I just. Have felt. I've struggled a lot with that of being like and as you can imagine, I'm a pretty assertive woman. I can show up in spaces and attempt to be articulate. I cannot tell you the number of times I have been told that I intimidate men and I'm like, I don't know what to do with that, because I'm not that's not my heart, that's not my design to come in and like, you know, go crazy town and be this super self righteous individual. But I'm also not going to come in and just necessarily be quiet, like, I'm going to ask questions and I'm going to be curious and I'm going to challenge you in different ways, and I know that that's not a popular thing. And so I

remember having this really hard conversation with a sweet friend who's in her own journey. She's actually in the process of divorcing her addictive husband, and she said to me, I don't even know if God's for me anymore. I'm so lost in the fact that I'm doing something. And people, the first thing people say is, God hates divorce. God hates divorce. Hold on, I'm going there Bonnie, because she's the fingers up. And we sat and talked about that for a long time, and then she said, and I feel like I'm losing, or I have lost, some sense of relationship with God, one, for the decision for divorce, and two, I'm just really struggling to even know if he's for me, because of, even just because of this decision, but in general, because she'd been navigating what many of us would refer to as Hell on Earth, like her story is so painful and so destructive, and she's going, where's God, you know? And a lot of the conversations she would have was like, could you know, have you considered forgiving your husband or your soon to be ex, etc, like they're ushering her into a place she's not ready to be at yet, right? But she also is not really sure how she's going to be able to reconcile her own story. Okay, I set all that up to say that the scripture that another friend gave me when I shared about trying to know if God's word was really for me as a woman and her was Galatians 328 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free. There is no male and female. For you are all one in Christ, Jesus. And if you are Christ's then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs, according to the promise. And that, for me personally, was so important to see the delineation of the way that we do try to, in very weird, roundabout ways, eliminate sections of people, sexes, whatever slave nor free. And so this is how this changes for me, because when I read Jeremiah 2911 and it states that his plans for me are good and a hope and a future, I still get to say yes to that, because this Galatians 328, is true, right? And so if that's true, and the Jeremiah scripture is true. Jesus Christ died on the cross for me as an individual, and he did the same for everyone else. He did not die on the cross for my marriage. And that matters for so many of us that distinction and clarity is really important for us to know that I am. The Lord has brought me together with my spouse in an effort to help both of us refine, right? I think I had a pastor one time that said we are two feral cats in a pillow sack. Good luck, right? And I thought that was a really great depiction two feral cats and a pillow Zach, but that is a part of the gift of what marriage is, is that it's a refinement process, and that that person refines you. It's not always one sided, like I have a voice and I have gifts that I bring to this relationship just the same as my husband does.

Bonny 24:28

Yeah, that what I was going to comment on when my finger was up, that it's not that God hates divorce, because God actually gave Israel a divorce decree. God hates the behaviors that create divorce. God hates Galatians five talks about what God hates. He hates wrath. He hates envy. It's not that God hates divorce,

Pam B. 24:53

and let's talk about the word divorce to and culturally today, you think of. Divorce. You think of about a judge and paperwork and legal things. God hates the divorce that happens in betrayal, when that first person betrays or doesn't show up. That's an emotional divorce. That is that person leaving the relationship just because they're there with you in proximity, doesn't mean they're in relationship. Many people leave the relationship long before the divorce papers are signed. That's what God hates, is when that other person stops being a part of the relationship.

Lyschel 25:40

Yeah, not a resource for that Pam, that exact thought, and even Bonnie, redemptive divorce, a biblical process that offers guidance for the suffering partner, healing for the offending spouse, and the best catalyst for restoration. It's a book on Amazon. It was published in 2008 by Mark Gaither, G, A, I, T, H, E, R, so I'm sure you'll put them in the show notes. Bonnie, but the thing that I appreciated so much in this particular book or this resource, was that he starts with what is marriage? Because until we can understand what marriage is, it's difficult for us to understand what divorce is. And he spoke to the fact that so many are living in spiritually They're spiritually divorced. They're only married on paper. And he started going through the history of the marriage license in our country, and I was like, Oh my gosh. Like, this is so true. Like, the marriage license piece of paper was not something that actually happened forever. It's not been a part of all of our things. It's been part of our culture in the United States because it was a way of tracking people.

B Bonny 26:57

Well, let's go ahead and move on to our next next ray of sunshine. I just heard from I heard from a listener that this is her favorite part of our episodes. So what hope can we leave our listeners around fall T messages,

Pam B. 27:18

I'm always reminded of La story about how the name of her organization came about, and she talks about putting our hope in all the wrong places, and we tend to put our hope in the wrong places. We and give our authority to the wrong places. Therapists, sponsors, church leaders and we tend to give them our authority and let them make decisions for us. Because in the past, maybe that was good, maybe we got good guidance. But I just want to let you know that you have authority. You have authority, you have autonomy, you have agency to trust what you're feeling and thinking, if something doesn't sound right, if you're getting advice somewhere, it's okay for you to say, Huh? I don't know about that. I'll have to think about that. It's okay to disagree. You're not disagreeing with God. If you disagree with a pastor or a pastor's wife or someone in the church who's giving you advice that doesn't sit right with you.

Bonny 28:44

And my hope would be around your emotions, if you've heard the message of your heart is wicked and deceitful above all else, and you need to be gentle and quiet. Well, I think that being gentle and quiet means that we aren't rageful, but we can be angry. We can be quiet in how we are assertive, you know, a controlled strength, not that we're we don't have a voice and and gentle is more like humble, a tranquility arising from within. So I don't see gentle and quiet as being diminishing, and I don't want any of you to be diminished. You're also what I know of betrayed partners is they are intelligent, they are capable and they are inquisitive. Those are beautiful qualities, and they shouldn't be stunted. And the second thing I would add is that in Genesis, Genesis is my fave. We were created to be to have co Dominion with the male. You know, it was before the. Fall, we were both to rule over the earth. So the fall has brought on many of these faulty messages. True hope is in Jesus.

Lyschel 30:16

I think the other piece of hope that I want to extend out to women is permission for curiosity, right? That being something that was kind of spoken over me as a no no, and then being like, no, wait, that is exactly what I get to do. And you know, we live in a day and age where information is so accessible, right? I think about my grandmother's generation, the only influence they had were the people that they sat with. They didn't have podcasts, they didn't have books, they didn't have an Amazon, they didn't have any of those things to be able to go and seek out other thoughts, other people's influences, etc. I mean, so we're living in such a rich day and age of being able to do that. So my hope stick out there is, if you're curious, go be curious with the Lord. Go read the things. Go study the Scriptures. Go look at these women and see what it means for all of the things. And this, of course, I'm just talking still from the perspective of where is, where are women in the in in the kingdom of God? If there's something that's being spoken and you're just still wrestling with it, like Bonnie talking about, you know that your emotions are not safe? Well, they shouldn't be in charge, but they certainly are in indicators, right? So go. Go, get curious about that. Go figure out what, what am I allowed to do? Like what not even allowed? What should I be doing with my emotions? How should they be influencing the way I do my life? Do I pay attention to them, or do I just always ignore them? And the answer is neither one of those like they're not always in charge, and we don't always ignore them. That would be my hope. I've got two resources I want to recommend. There's one by a woman named Diane langberg, and it is called Hold on. Just had it in front of me. One of the resources I want to recommend is redeeming power, by Diane leanberg, and it talks about redeeming power, understanding authority and abuse in the church. Now I'm not I'm not stating that everyone's living in abusive church environments. That's not what I'm saying. But the wisdom that could come from that for you to be able to confidently say, Yeah, I'm totally in a safe community. I'm in a safe church environment, like there's so much empowering that can come from that so beautiful resource. If you're not a if you're not an audible person or book reader, look it up on YouTube. She's got multiple interviews around that particular book title, fantastic teacher. And this other book that I have been handed but have not personally read yet. So I am going to put that little caveat in there. It's called the making of a biblical woman, and it is by Beth Allison Barr. So the making of a biblical woman, it was actually published in 2021 but I have been told multiple times that the subtitle of it is how the subjunction of women became gospel truth. And now it might ruffle some feathers. However, there's a place of curiosity. Let you sit in that figure out, Is it even accurate? And then the other two resources I'm going to put out there is two individuals that speak really well to this topic. Is Leslie vernick. She

Pam B. 33:54

has a podcast. She has a

Lyschel 33:58

and Julie Slattery. Dr Julie Slattery, both of those the Java with Julie podcast, she's got multiple episodes around what this looks like and being able to find truth in places when it feels like there's lots of confusion. So

B Bonny 34:17

I'd add, is it me making sense of your confusing marriage. By Natalie Hoffman as well. I just finished reading that. It was very good. Listeners. Thank you for joining us so much today. If you would like to help more betrayed women find us, please consider leaving a five star rating or review on Apple podcasts. And when we reach 500 ratings, Apple will promote us in a different way. And I just want to take a moment to thank the 115 listeners who have left reviews already for us on Apple. And I want to highlight this recent review. She says, I am not crazy hope for wives. Podcast has taught me to give my. Self grace as I navigate through the betrayal process and search for ways to heal, it truly is a podcast full of hope. These three ladies are so real and honest, and they give it to you straight, and I absolutely love them so much, even though we've never met, there are days I feel like I am going crazy, but on those days, I know to listen to an episode of hope for wives to bring me back to all three of you. Thank you for your service to your fellow sisters in recovery. Big hugs. Oh so wonderful. Yeah, thank you so much for leaving that review. Yeah, absolutely. So you know, the three of us had no idea how God would use this podcast when we began, and now he's showing us incredible ways, not just for the listeners, but we're becoming curriculum. How did that happen? So we only knew that we needed to share the truths that we we've learned from Yahweh and Yeshua and we thank you for sitting with us in this conversation today, and we'll see you again soon. Bye. You mama, hi.