



Lesson 11

May 16, 2021

The Truth Hurts

For years, The Eastside Grille was the number one restaurant in the town of Berryville. The locals would declare with pride that they were “addicted” to the delicious food—which was full of variety. The food was delicious, but it seemed almost impossible to leave without partaking of one of the most-delectable desserts known to humanity!

During this time of social unrest and insecurity, many restaurants have gone out of business, but The Eastside Grille has remained open; in fact, it seems as though the business is growing. Tom, the manager of the restaurant, has had to hire extra people to manage the many customers—old and new. The chef is one of a kind, with many “secret recipes,” distinguishing the taste of the menu items from any other restaurant in the area. Mr. Jones, the owner of the restaurant, checked in often with Tom to ensure that things were going well. He directed him to do everything possible to continue to grow the business, taking advantage of the fact that others had to close their doors. He said, “Keep the doors open, no matter what! There is a bonus waiting for you if you keep things going at this pace!”

After a few months of having all of the customers they could possibly handle, a few of the workers were diagnosed with Covid-19, including the cook, although he had no symptoms. Before long, it seemed to spread rapidly among the workers, to the extent that every shift was understaffed.

Tom called Mr. Jones in order to inform him that he recommended temporarily closing the restaurant. Mr. Jones responded, “That’s not necessary. If you cannot keep it going, you can forget about your bonus. As a matter of fact, if you cannot keep the doors open, I can find someone who can!”

Discussion Questions:

1. What happens when doing the right thing brings personal harm to you?
2. Are the best decisions most often based on doing the best thing for the most people?
3. As Christians, what are some situations when it is acceptable to take the “don’t ask, don’t tell” stance?
4. When it comes to taking care of the family, is it acceptable in this situation to do so “by any means necessary?”