

Putting it All Together

Day One – Read Matthew 28:18-20; Ephesians 2:1-10.

Our first priority is to “*be a disciple*” before we start “*making disciples*.” We are first reconciled to God, and then given the ministry of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:15-18.) Are you committed to Christ’s great commission? If so, how?

Pray - Thank God for changing your life by his grace and mercy. Ask him to ignite your passion for him and for reaching lost people with his love.

Day Two – Read Our “Six Qualities.” Which of these qualities are best developed in you? Which are least developed? How will you seek to strengthen your areas of weakness?

Pray – Thank Jesus for his call on your life. Thank him that he is committed to your growth and maturity. Ask him to help you grow in those areas of your life.

Day Three – Read Luke 9:23-25; John 8:12; Matthew 5:14; Ephesians 5:8; 2 Peter 1:3-4; 2 Peter 2:5; 1 Timothy 4:7b.

Becoming the person God wants us to be is a process where God does his work in us as we partner with him. All growth comes by grace, but it will involve our trust, our obedience, and our diligent efforts to pursue him and his purpose for our lives. Are you committed to this pursuit?

Pray – Thank God for his work in your life. Thank him for bringing you from death to life. Ask him to help you put a priority on doing “first things first” that you might become the person he wants you to be!

New Life Lessons
November 14th & 15th, 2015
Pastor Ron Salsbury

“Putting it All Together”

Becoming the People God Wants Us to Be #7

Matthew 28:18-20; 2 Peter 1:3-4

2 Peter 1:3-11 (NIV) ³ God’s divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. ⁴ Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

⁵ For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; ⁶ and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; ⁷ and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. ⁸ For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ But if anyone does not have them, he is nearsighted and blind, and has forgotten that he has been cleansed from his past sins.

¹⁰ Therefore, my brothers, be all the more eager to make your calling and election sure. For if you do these things, you will never fall, ¹¹ and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Three Questions

Who were we?

Ephesians 2:1-3 (NIV) ¹ As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ² in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. ³ All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath.

Colossians 2:13-15

Who are we?

Ephesians 2:4-6 (NIV) ⁴ But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions--it is by grace you have been saved. ⁶ And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,

1 Peter 2:9-10

Who will we become?

Ephesians 2:7-10 (NIV) ⁷ in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- ⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

1 Peter 1:3-9; 1 Timothy 4:7b; Revelation 5:9b-10; 21:1-4

Our Six Qualities

We want to be disciples who SEEK GOD with:

Passionate Devotion We want to be people who are not just redeemed from our sin, but who live in relationship with our Savior – people who are passionately devoted to knowing, loving, and serving Jesus Christ.

Biblical Perspective Believing that the Bible is God's inspired Word; we want to evaluate everything in our lives in the light of God's Word and seek to build our lives on the foundation of His Truth.

We want to be disciples who SERVE OTHERS with:

Responsible Stewardship Knowing that all we have has been given by God, and that we are but mere "stewards and managers," we will become personally responsible to steward our resources well. We believe that biblical stewardship

begins in our hearts as a loving intent, but extends through our hands in loving action.

Missional Mindset Believing that life is not "all about us," but all about knowing God and doing his will, we will seek to spend our lives fulfilling Christ's Great Commission – "to Make Disciples," (Matthew 28:18-20) and, Christ's Great Commandment – "to Love One Another," (John 13:34.) This will mean seeing the people in our lives – our family, our friends, our neighbors, our co-workers, our community, and our world as people we are called to love and serve.

We want to be disciples who live TOGETHER in:

Healthy Family As the family is our primary source of nurture, our first school in life, the foundation of our society, and our first priority in ministry, we commit ourselves to the development of healthy marriages and families. For those who are not yet, or no longer married, we seek to develop healthy relationships in our family of origin and in our friendships. We all will seek to develop a true sense of "family" within the fellowship of our church.

Authentic Community Understanding that Christ's command to "love one another" (John 13:34) is more than just a suggestion, we will actively involve ourselves in relationships that seek authentic community. These relationships will be marked by unity, commitment, compassion, acceptance, encouragement, and accountability.

**"God does not transform us to be more loveable,
God transforms us to be more useable!!"**