

Knowing God: Reproducing Our Faith

Discipleship 201 - Session 12

Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. Ephesians 3:8-10

Introduction: The calling of every Christian is to walk in an intimate relationship with God, and to reproduce our faith in the life of another person. In other words, we are called to mentor others in their faith journey, and to lead them to the same intimacy with God that we have been privileged to share.

The process of mentoring another Christian in order to multiply the work of God's church and to prepare others to replace us is a biblical principle.

- A. A portion of the Spirit upon _____ was given to 70, so that his work might be multiplied. (Numbers 11:14-17)
- B. _____, like most prophets, had a following of disciples who were then blessed with a portion of the Spirit of God that was given to him. (II Kings 2:4-15)
- C. The people of Israel were chosen by God, not because they were in some way worthy, but so that they might be a _____ to the nations (Isaiah 42:5-7)

- D. Jesus had an inner circle of _____ disciples, a larger circle of 12, a larger circle of _____, and then the largest circle of hundreds
- E. Many of the disciples, including Paul, _____ other disciples in order to multiply their ministry and to replace themselves.
- F. Every Christian is entrusted with the call to be a _____ to the nations. (Matthew 5:14-16)
 1. We do not do this by opening our doors on _____
 2. We do this when we mentor another to be a _____ of Christ
 3. We are a _____ people
 - a. To be holy means to be "Set _____" for a purpose.
 - b. Holy people are those that represent _____ to the world.

Two Keys to being a Faith Mentor

A. Knowing how much we have been _____
"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. John 3:16-17

1. Love is the _____ of God's law (Matthew 22:36-40)
2. God is a God of _____, not of doctrine and dogma, each expressing His love
3. The _____ creed is a concise expression of the loving action of God.

- a. God the _____
- 1) God gifted us with _____ (Genesis 1-2)
 - 2) God is _____ (Matthew 19:26)
- b. God the _____
- 1) Jesus is God's _____ of Love (John 1:1-4; 14)
 - 2) The virgin birth expresses the new _____ being given through Jesus
 - 3) His suffering and death is both an _____ of His love, and the act which gifts us salvation
 - 4) His descent into _____ proves that there is nowhere we can go that is too far from the love of God (Psalm 139:7-12)
 - 5) His resurrection proves His intent to gift us with new _____ (Romans 6:1-11)
 - 6) His ascension shows us that He is ever _____, looking over our concerns, and preparing a place for us (John 14:1-7)
 - 7) His _____ coming is evidence of His mercy. (I John 14:3)
- c. God the Holy _____
- 1) Jesus did not leave us with out a _____ to guide us and direct us (John 14:16-26; 15:26)
 - 2) This Spirit is given to _____ Christian, not just a few select leaders, as in the Old Testament
 - 3) The _____ church means the "universal" church, which is an indication that God wants to unite all

Christians by the power of the Holy Spirit (John 17:1-26)

- 4) The communion of saints indicates that through Christ, God unites Christians of all ages as one Holy _____.
- 5) The forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting is the message of grace _____ to us.

We are not called to convince people of every dogma and doctrine of our particular congregation and denomination, only the message of grace given through Christ. (Eph. 2:8-9)

- d) The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are _____ God, coming to us as three _____, each unique, expressing God's eternal plan to love us and bring us into His Kingdom.

- B. Passing that love on to _____
1. Every Christian should have a _____
 2. Every Christian should seek a circle of _____ to mentor, which should grow no larger than 12
 - a. Mentor them for _____
 - b. As you learn and grow in faith, you pass this on to your _____.
 - 1) Faith is a process of growing in Christ (Ephesians 4:22-24)
 - 2) We are called to be patient, as God has been patient with us
 - c. We are not called to pass on a list of _____
 - d. We are called to pass on a God of love and _____