
❖SERMON NOTES❖

Sunday, January 20, 2013

“CREATED TO BECOME LIKE CHRIST”

(Romans 8:29)

We are spending the first weeks of the new year exploring God’s core biblical purposes for every person and for every church. During week one we looked at worship. Your first purpose is to get to know and love God. Last Sunday we talked about how we are shaped by God to serve Him by serving others and we call that ministry. Next week we talk about how you are formed for God’s family. God wants you to learn to love other people and get along in His family, and the Bible calls that fellowship. Today we look at the biblical purpose of discipleship. We are created to become like Christ.

“For from the very beginning God decided that those who came to Him – and He knew who would – should become like His Son” (Romans 8:29, LB).

“God wants us to grow up...like Christ in everything.” (Ephesians 4:15, The Message).

1. GOD USES _____ TO TEACH US TO _____ HIM.

“We also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope” (Romans 5:3-4, NASB).

“‘Father’ He said, ‘everything is possible for You. Please take this cup of suffering away from me. Yet, I want Your will, not Mine!’” (Mark 14:36, NLT).

“Our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all” (2 Corinthians 4:17, NIV).

2. GOD USES _____ TO TEACH US TO _____.

“Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil” (Matthew 4:1, NIV).

“If you love Me, you will keep My commandments” (John 14:15, NASB).

“Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things” (Philippians 4:8, NASB).

“Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus” (Philippians 2:5, NIV).

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“For from the very beginning God decided that those who came to Him – and He knew who would – should become like His Son” (Romans 8:29, LB).

“God wants us to grow up...like Christ in everything.” (Ephesians 4:15, The Message).

“In all things God works for the good for those who love Him, who have been called according to His purposes.” (Romans 8:28, NIV)

1. GOD USES TROUBLE TO TEACH US TO TRUST HIM.

“We also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope” (Romans 5:3-4, NASB).

“‘Father’ He said, ‘everything is possible for You. Please take this cup of suffering away from me. Yet, I want Your will, not Mine!’” (Mark 14:36, NLT).

“At the Lord’s direction, Moses kept a written record of their progress” (Numbers 33:2, NLT).”

“Our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all” (2 Corinthians 4:17, NIV).

“These hard times are small potatoes compared to the coming good times and the lavish celebration prepared for us” (2 Corinthians 4:17, The Message).

2. GOD USES TEMPTATION TO TEACH US TO OBEY.

“Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil” (Matthew 4:1, NIV).

“If you love Me, you will keep My commandments” (John 14:15, NASB).

“Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things” (Philippians 4:8, NASB).

“Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble” (Ecclesiastes 4:9-10, NLT).

“But if we go through the hard times with Him, then we’re certainly going to go through the good times with Him” (Romans 8:17, The Message).

“Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus” (Philippians 2:5, NIV).