

ADULT SS  
BACKGROUND &  
PURPOSE

## ADULT SS BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

**What should be preached? How can changing to these themes have a healthy effect? This lifts up \_\_\_\_\_, keeps me from \_\_\_\_\_.**

- God's Holiness > Men's Sinfulness > Christ Righteousness > A call to carry the Cross
- Keep God's standards in view (not ours)
- Christ's Righteousness - lifts up His Christ's provision keeps me from looking at myself
- Not new, but true brings hope (i.e. John 3:16)
- Carry the Cross - lifts up saved purpose as dying, keeps me from defining life
- Continuing framework for life that treasures fellowship with God
- Not one time thing, this is a life lived
- Right response should be gratitude & stability (always know where to look)
- God's Holiness – the separateness of God matters
- Presupposes that we have leaned to listen and repent

# ADULT SS BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

**What healthy effect results from preaching God's holiness? This lifts up \_\_\_\_\_, keeps me from \_\_\_\_\_.**

Lifts up:

- Greatness of God
- Gives us a way to deal with what we don't understand – He is above, He is Good
- Helps us see true life, relationship, and creativity
- He gets glory
- Free to worship
- Puts us under God & gives us joy, freedom, and obedience in worship
- First place we go (prayer) – 1 Thess. 5:17
- Integrity of His attributes

Keeps from:

- Self-righteousness
- Bringing God down to my level
- Keeps us from sin
- Keeps us from seeing only the brokenness in our relationship
- Misrepresenting any of His attributes

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**What healthy effect results from preaching man's sinfulness? This lifts up \_\_\_\_\_, keeps me from \_\_\_\_\_.**

Lifts up:

- Need for a “doctor”/deliver
- Authority of God's word
- Vast gulf between God's nature and ours
- The gospel
- Taking responsibility/blame - leads to hope

Keeps from:

- Continuing as is
- Lashing out, because undeserved
- Being resistant to God's solutions

# ADULT SS BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

**What healthy effect results from preaching Christ's righteousness? This lifts up \_\_\_\_\_, keeps me from \_\_\_\_\_.**

Lifts up:

- **Courage – keeps moving forward**
  - I can do all things through Christ (Phil. 4:13)
  - To stand before King Agrippa or the prodigal on the street
  - This life isn't all there is – I belong with Him
- Allows us to serve joyfully
- Christ righteousness above our sin
- Christ (Phil. 2:3-5)

Keeps from:

- **Backing down**
- **Living under condemnation (the law)**
- **Self-righteousness**
- **Too low of a ceiling on maturity – creating an either or instead of seeing the spectrum**

# ADULT SS BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

## What healthy effect results from preaching a call to carry the cross?

### Lifts up:

- Fellowship with God as we suffer with Him
- Gives purpose, gives roles – include suffering
- Sacrificial living – giving of self (small/large)
- Value of Christ – because of value, willingly imitate (Rom. 12)
- Freedom from all else that “makes life valuable” (Col. 3:1-3)
- Gratitude for identity in Christ and concern for those outside
- Present something different even while “real”
- Suffering to complete God’s purposes which are broader than my suffering
- Body working together - necessitates us dying or we give up
- Doing Father’s will
- Walking the path of light/life

### Keeps from:

- Feeling entitled/deserve better or I don’t have to carry
- Sinning because I live before others
- Living by our own logic (sin so deceptive)
- Sin/suffering isolates us
- Not trusting full truth of God’s Word

# ADULT SS BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

## What healthy effect results from preaching a call to carry the cross? Cont...

### Lifts up:

- Doing Father's will
- Walking the path of light/life
- One/purpose for which doing undesired
- Relational nature of the new birth

### Keeps from:

- Feeling entitled/deserve better or I don't have to carry
- Sinning because I live before others
- Living by our own logic (sin so deceptive)
- Sin/suffering isolates us
- Not trusting full truth of God's Word

# ADULT SS BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

He said, if we want to see revival coming from the Spirit of God, we must preach the Word and pray. **What should be preached? God's holiness, man's sinfulness, Christ's righteousness, and then a call to carry the cross.** Where was the hope for John Bunyan when he was grieved by his sin?

**What keeps us from focusing there when we feel the weight of our sin and what is the result?  
How will these four themes preached lead to revival from the Spirit of God?**

- Distractions, everything else keeps us from looking beyond & to Christ
- Attempting to look to heaven (to call to God) & no person
- No response
- Forgetting what He has promised, regarding my standing/sin
- Romans 7 – battle is normal
- Too hard to understand to trust something so central without understanding
- Discouraged by inability to stop sinning – II Cor.12 strength, perfected in weakness
- Don't feel weight of sin because so desperate to avoid shame
- Satan's role in us not looking to God





## ADULT SS BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

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**What thoughts cross your mind about our individual and corporate responsibility with the Lord's Table and Baptism? (not merely what is the problem, but how should the definitions of these studied and strengthened actually promote healthy churches AND protect against nominalism and unholiness; **how has your view of Lord's Table and Baptism shifted?**)**



## ADULT SS BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

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A love for God and a love for others will lead to 5 distinct things that go together. **Discipling, Evangelism, Raising up leaders, Church Planting, Missions.** What is the root of these five things (the “germ” he talks about)? What do we need to do to foster this root in our lives individually and as a church?

## ADULT SS BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

A love for God and a love for others will lead to 5 distinct things that go together. **Discipling, Evangelism, Raising up leaders, Church Planting, Missions** How do these five things **TOGETHER** result from a love for God and love for others? Why will there be a culture of raising up elders and leaders if men, women, boys, girls follow Jesus and teach others to follow Jesus?

# ADULT SS BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

**Underlying Assumptions/Goals in Adult SS for church as whole:**

- 1. We must shift our focus from personal maturity and growth to building healthy churches.**
- 2. We must focus on the roots, not merely the fruit.**

# “SKELETON AND FLESH OF THE CHURCH” APPLIED PT. 9

CBC, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2021

**IF we do NOTHING else together, the Collective People of God must:**

- I. Worship God Together.** Romans 15:5-6
- II. Grow Individually and Corporately with a Growth that Comes from God.** Eph. 4:15-16
- III. Protect/Defend the Name of God—His character and Eternal Purposes.** II Tim. 1:13-14
- IV. Own the People in the Particular Expression of the Body of Christ where God has Placed you.** I Cor. 12:18, Eph. 4:16
- V. Spread the Glory of God** Hab. 2:14, I Pet. 2:9

## ADULT SS BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

We have looked at public worship services, relationships, growth, culture, now finally, What would need to be lifted up/allowed if want to build healthy churches with strong roots in **faithful service**?



# ADULT SS BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

## What IS service? What do we usually think of as service in the church?

- Practical necessities to worship
- Ministries (roles)
- Serve- should be other than you – willing to do whatever
- In-church, outside
- Talents – given by God – He decides where & how
- Giving, discipling, peacemaking, conversation, personal care – are all service
- Sacrifice - time, preferences, time displaying what has been given/honed
- Normally, we find gifts, plug people in
- Scripture calls us to stimulate others to good deeds
- Prayer
- Service demands patience

## ADULT SS BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

**What does Numbers 4:1ff, 16-19, 22ff, 29ff., Romans 12 do for guiding our service inside the church?**

- Temporary, so repetitive, specific
- Assigned
- Leaders/ Servants
- Prescribed order w/ serious consequences
- Deviating from responsibilities brings consequences
- Part of whole – part is NOT whole
- Show up (be on duty, be where God is working)
- Called to do (reasonable service) NOT what you get out of it
- Rom. 12 – must be personally applied and held accountable
- Balance – all service tied to Rom. 12:1-2

# ADULT SS BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

## What does Numbers I Peter 4:7-11 do for guiding our service inside the church?

- V.7 - In the sphere of prayer (communion)
  - V.11 - God words/strength for Godly service
  - V. 1 - Arm yourself with the same purpose as Christ – suffer, you are in a dangerous situation, pay attention
  - V. 12 - Conflict & our response test our faithfulness in service
  - Need character to head this way – this character must come from yielding to the Spirit
- What causes Burnout:
    - Self-sufficiency
    - Earth bound goals
    - Overwhelmed by world
    - Identity with present circumstances rather than faithfully owning our part in God's Work
    - Disenchanted from wrong expectations (i.e. repetition of ordinary)

## ADULT SS BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

Through the lens of these two goals, what were some of the changes hoped for by intentionally changing the goals during our *Future Grace* study leading to an 8 year study of that book? (longer studies over the years preceding)

## ADULT SS BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or remain absent, I will hear of you that **you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;**

Philippians 1:27

Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, <sup>2</sup> **make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose.**

Philippians 2:1-2