

ADULT SS
BACKGROUND &
PURPOSE

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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 w/o understanding
- Discouraged by inability to stop sinning – II Cor.12 strength, perfected in weakness
- Don't feel weight of sin b/c so desperate to avoid shame
- Satan's role in us not looking to God

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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? (Cont.)

- Paying for our own sins
- So embedded in the fruit of our/their sin that focus remains on us
- Not tangible, not right in front of us, (sin separates, look farther) - II Peter 1:12
- Life now drowns out "Salvation" back there
- Knowledge of God & Gospel at salvation is just the beginning of knowledge
- Forget how Holy God is and our sinful we are
- Like/choose to live in the deception of sin even though we know we are deceived
- Choose truth = God's Reality

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Thoughts on the article, “Losing Christ in Christianity?”

- We are indicted by our Christ-less Christianity
- Are we satisfied with God’s final & highest revelation? Must think again of how sin so easily entangles/parables of the soils

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How does their gift to the saints in Jerusalem show the submission that comes from their confession of the gospel of Christ?

- Grace received turns into grace given
- All resources become His – hence obedience to owner reflecting His values/program
- 1 John 5:1 – proof that we are born of God when have genuine love for brethren showing our ownership of them
- Showing obedience (Acts 2:43-46) as direct response to the awe from the gift of God
- V.12 this act of obedience merely part of the overflow of thanks to God which then spreads to glory of God
- V.13 goes back to glorifying God for the obedience | only God could work this kind of obedience – therefore, He gets the glory
- Because God worked on love & ownership for people they had nothing in common with other than Christ
- Vertical gratitude produced horizontal gratitude
- Confidence from Him is proven by what accompanies

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What might keep them from giving what was promised?

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How does “giving yourself to Christ” lead to actions of Macedonians?



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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)

- If anyone can be baptized, takes away meaning/value
- These ordinances belong in the church
- What about being too critical
- Lowering the bar
- What is the object of faith?
- Authenticity vs. false assurance
- Sports -> that's not wrestling, B-ball
- When conversion super easy, ecclesiology is weak

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How is this view of Baptism and the Lord's Table different from where we normally focus? (where do you normally focus? Those around you? What would have to change if this were correct?)



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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?

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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** Why do these five go together? For example, 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

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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**?

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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

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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

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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)

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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)

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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, ² **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