

ADULT SS
BACKGROUND &
PURPOSE

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What does it require to find what God values and does and then fill your life with more of these things?

- Being thankful
- In & under His Word
- Submission & humility
- Honoring His work in creation & sustaining
- Habits of Grace – reading Word, meditating, prayer, fellowship of saints are not the end – we sink our roots into Him & spread branches out in service which drives us back to learn more of Him (need Him to serve Him)
- Matt. 6:33 what does seeking look like? Knowing only part of picture – get wisdom & understanding (effort involved in bridge between facts & apprehension application)
- If “know more” than those around, then lose desire to learn more

ADULT SS BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

What does it require to find what God values and does and then fill your life with more of these things? CONTINUED

- No growth if not identifying sin & enjoy the benefits of confession through Christ
- Discipleship process that includes all God intends to work in our lives
- Trust Christ to separate you from your sin (cleanse us from all unrighteousness)
- Rom 5:8 God demonstrates His love, while still sinners Christ died for us – I John 4:19 He Love because He first loved us
- Meditation Ps.1 day & night – explaining to myself the truth I just read, I find must struggle more to understand

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Why don't people listen to God's words/obey them (whether they profess to fear God or not)?

- Like children with parents, wisdom & experience outside doesn't matter because I haven't experienced it
- Limited sight/ don't love/ respect person enough to cross what they think appropriate
- Pride – we know, so don't inspect our assumptions
- Lazy – like our pleasures (easier to surf on web etc.)
- Perhaps see God/Kingdom/problem, take care how we listen
- We don't want His love, we've turned need for His love into serving our desire – our hearts choosing to love God, yield to the Spirit
- John 3:36 – NOT born again
- We put emphasis on God's work of sanctification – what is our part

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Why don't people listen to God's words/obey them (whether they profess to fear God or not)? CONTINUED

- Not aware of what is at stake – what is going on behind the scenes
- Not rooted in Him
- Scared of rejection, sin nature, pride – own judgment/agenda - John 14:15
- Don't see the best in created world (nature, own ingenuity, our brokenness)– dim reflection of beauty of God
- Make God small, don't see beauty, etc.
- Distractions – including fall down, fear, do wrong
- If you haven't thought about it, been taught carefully, then act on own or by fears/feelings

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How do we worship with our lips but hearts are far from Him?

1. When fear of God stops with obedience without fellowship
2. Can't see God, so focus more on impressions of association with God and never actually getting to God
3. Working toward God without letting God lead
4. Not knowing Him

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How does defining love for God + others tie to following Jesus?

- Way back to God
- Way forward after sin
- John 14:6 accountable
- Inside history, His character seen – culminates in Jesus
- Seen Jesus, seen the Father – This is My Beloved Son, listen to Him
- Ephesians 2:4 – Made us alive together in Christ – BUT God
- Love leads to seeing the problem of enmity, calling for reconciliation outside our power to achieve – God did it through Christ
- Those longing for redemption
- Persistence to know what it means to love God
- Those under God (humility) who respond to God
- Seeing beyond your need to glorious plan of God – Transcendence

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What does “being a disciple”/following imply or necessitate?

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What does this say about our following Jesus if we are not actively helping others follow Jesus?

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What does making disciples of Jesus include?

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What would be some of the inhibitors to us cultivating this germ of following Jesus ourselves and helping others follow Jesus in the church?

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How would following Jesus deal with these inhibitors?

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What do we need to do to strengthen this germ/root of following Jesus in our lives individually and as a church?

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Why will following Jesus individually/together naturally result in a culture of **discipling, evangelism, raising up leaders, church planting, and missions**? (What is the tie? How do they flow from each other?)

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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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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