FUTURE GRACE AND THE PURPOSE OF ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CONCLUSION PT. 1

- How much should leader/leaders decide what is valuable and where we should focus and how much consideration should be given for people's preferences, opinions, or "felt needs"?
- What should a small church prioritize when don't have resources to accommodate everyone's felt needs? Does everyone deserve the benefits of a large church where there are more opportunities for people to get what they think they need OR deserve to find church that fits their understanding of growth and service?
- What IS the skeleton and flesh of a healthy church?
- What DOES healthy spiritual growth look like?
- What is the common mission for ALL Christians?
- How do we determine value? If we value the wrong things, how do we change focus in a godly way?

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

Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, 2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, 3 being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.

Ephesians 4:1–6

What problems might occur if the people you are tied together with for life and ministry don't have a common history or common understanding of normal Christian life or our mission together?

- Pick and choose who fellowship with and serve with instead of dealing with those God has sent
- Without common understanding, it takes time
- Miscommunication about history and growth and experiences (God versus self-centered)
- Compromising the core gospel itself by focusing on application of lack of pedigree
- Confusion and disagreements
- Less of a bond when no community before our own
- Make minor issues big rather than "simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ", "we preach Christ" (therefore, baptism, membership, communion)
- Can't support each other's mission or means of God's leading

FUTURE GRACE AND THE PURPOSE OF ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CONCLUSION PT. 2

Purpose:

- 1. Cultivate the Heart of a Disciple (Matt. 16:24, 28:19-20, II Tim. 2:2)
- 2. Increase our biblical understanding of God (Jer. 9:23-24, Phil. 3:10, I Tim. 4:16, Jn. 17:3)
- 3. Increase our understanding of the current Christian climate (I Chron. 12:32, Dan. 11:32, Lk. 12:56)
- 4. Grow together as men of Cornerstone Bible Church (Heb. 10:24, I Thess. 4:9, I Pet. 1:22, Heb. 3:13)

Meeting: 8:30 am – 12:00 pm the second Saturday of every month following Men's Fellowship beginning

January 13, 2007. The class will meet for ten months (no meeting July & August), with the last meeting on Friday night, December 7.

Cost: \$60 for textbooks

Requirements to Complete the Class:

- 1. 90% Attendence (1 absence allowed from each of the four sections=1 total session)
- 2. 100% Textbook Reading & Worksheets

Note: Only those who have read the section may speak during the discussion. Hand in worksheets one week prior to class which will list your 5 top statements from each reading and list any questions you would raise for discussion.

3. 100% Outside Reading & 5 Book Analysis Papers

Requirements for Book Analysis' are as follows:

- 1. 2 Pages (4 page Maximum). Double-spaced. One-inch margins. 12 Point.
- 2. No more than one paragraph summary. The rest of the paper consists of interaction with ideas from the book.
- 3. End with your personal opinion of the book.

FUTURE GRACE AND THE PURPOSE OF ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CONCLUSION PT. 1

Let's publicly process. Any thoughts that would be helpful as you listen? (undeveloped thoughts, questions)

- High standard for following Christ—49-50 states low in reading; the one state growing has high standards, authority to carry it out;
- Helpful to see larger picture of people and issues that haven't thought of; also found that ones who
 were VERY helpful and much more informed could also have things not convinced AT ALL that were
 right but not be able to interact with them because didn't have answers;
- What do we do if we are not readers—God chose men to lead; what is needed for them to spread the gospel?

Summarize:

1. Sunday School needs a clarified purpose that contributes to the common goals of a healthy church.

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- 1. Sunday School needs a clarified purpose that contributes to the common goals of a healthy church.
- 2. Gospel change must have Gospel roots, not just behavioral or moralistic change.