

Sunday, January 31, 2021

Title: The Habit of Obedience

Text: John 14:18 – 21; 10:1 – 4; Matthew 7:24 – 27;
John 2:1 – 10; Matthew 21:28 - 31

Purpose: *I want to PERSUADE my congregation to HONESTLY evaluate their walk with the Lord Jesus Christ and to practice repentance and adjustment in their walk.*

Introduction:

Review of the last Sunday's devotional
by Brother Larry Tittle:

- Parable – How to rule the world in five easy steps: infect everyone (cancer); convince people that the disease does not exist; I can be cured WITHOUT medical help; have medical cure but not share it; minimize the testimony of those who have the cure

- Parable – cancer is sin and the Evil guy trying to convince people is Satan

- Cure – Romans 3:23; Romans 5:12; John 14:6; Romans 10:10; Acts 1:8

There will be opposition!!!

Review of the devotional of January 17
The Habit of Focus

1. Godly Focus Develops from Being Scripturally Minded (Meditation)
2. Godly Focus is a Heart Issue
3. Godly Focus Requires that I be Selective

Read: John 14:18 – 21; 10:1 – 4; Matthew 7:24 – 27;
John 2:1 – 10; Matthew 21:28 - 31

1. Careful NOT to Misapply Scripture:

~ Matthew 22:29, *“But Jesus answered them, “You are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God.”*

~ In the mouth of two or three witnesses is a vital condition in knowing that a logos has become a rhema in my life.

1.1) Romans 6:14, *“For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but grace.”*

~ Notice that the subject is...in my flesh who am I serving?

~ How often I have heard people say, *“I am not under the law but under grace.”*

The grace of God does not exempt us from obeying the civil or criminal laws of our land; the exception being when such laws violate the counsel of God.

~ Seeking to develop the habit of OBEDIENCE is NOT moving into legalism!!!

John 14:21, *“Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him”*

~ John 10:4, *“When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.”*

Seeking to build the habit of obedience is NOT legalism; it is the natural response to a deep meaningful LOVE relationship.

2. Careful to LISTEN:

2.1) Matthew 7:24 – 25, *“Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. (25) And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock.”*

2.2) John 2:5, *“His mother said to the servants, “Do what ever he tells you.”*

We listen to God by Meditating on the Word of God (which begins with simply READING the Word) and by maintaining a godly Focus. Then, as God speaks to us, we respond to what He is saying!

3. Careful to ADJUST my Walk:

3.1) Matthew 21:28 – 29, *“What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ (29) And he answered, ‘I will not,’ but afterward he changed his mind and went.”*

3.2) Luke 11:13, *“If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”*

Conclusion:

Hebrews 4:11 - 16