

Sunday, March 7, 2021

Title: The Habit of Witnessing

Receiving God's Favor - 7

Text: Acts 1:1 - 10

Corinthians 12:1 - 11; 13:1 - 13; 3:1 - 15

Purpose: I want to INFORM my congregation that being a witness of the Lord Jesus Christ is established on Divine Power, Divinely Imparted character and Divine Command.

1 Timothy 4:13, "Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching."

Introduction:

Review of the last Sunday's devotional:
The Habit of Giving Thanks

1. Giving of Thanks is an Act of the WILL
2. Giving of Thanks is an Act of FAITH
3. Giving of Thanks is an Act of UNDERSTANDING
4. Giving of Thanks for DISCIPLINE

Read: Acts 1:1 – 10;

1 Corinthians 12:1 – 11, 13:1 – 13, 3:1 - 15

"There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, Than are dreamt of in your philosophy."

Hamlet by William Shakespeare

1. Divine POWER to Witness:

~ Acts 1:8, "But you will receive power (#1411, *dynamis*: power [77X], mighty work [11X], strength [7X], miracle [7X]) when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

~ 1 Corinthians 3:12 – 15, "Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw – (13) each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. (14) If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. (15) If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire."

~ 1 Corinthians 12:1 – 11 (Read again)

2. Divine Impartation of LOVE:

~ 2 Corinthians 5:17, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold the new has come."

~ John 13:35, "By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

~ John 22:15 – 17, "...Simon, son of John do you love (#25 *agapao*) me more than these?... "Yes, Lord; you know that I love (#5368 *phileo*) you... (16) He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love (#25 *agapao*) me?... "Lord, you know that I love (#5368 *phileo*) you."... (17) He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love (#5368 *phileo*) me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love (#5368 *phileo*) me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love (#5368 *phileo*) you." Jesus said to him feed my sheep."

~ 1 John 4:8, "Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love."

3. Divine Impartation of LIGHT:

~ 1 John 1:5, "This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all."

~ Matthew 5:14, "You are the light of the world, A city set on a hill cannot be hidden."

~ Ephesians 5:1 – 17 (Read – practice walking in the light)

4. Divine Impartation of SALT:

~ Matthew 5:13, "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet."

~ Colossians 4:6, "Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person."

~ Salt produces thirst and salt preserves.

Compare John 4:10 and 2 Thessalonians 2:6 - 17

5. Divine COMMAND:

~ 2 Timothy 4:5, "As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry."

~ Matthew 28:19, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, (20) teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Conclusion:

Hymn – When We All Get to Heaven