

21st Century Disciples

Part 2

Changing your world

(Introduction: We are in a new series focusing upon what does God want us to do after we give our heart to Jesus Christ.)

Jesus wants all of His followers to begin a journey of spiritual maturity called discipleship.

(This journey will literally change our minds...)

Romans 12:1-2 (NKJV)

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. [2] And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

When Jesus ascended into heaven he told the disciples to wait.

(Waiting is one of the most difficult things to do once we get excited about something.)

Acts 1:4 (KJV)

And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father...

What was taking place in the upper room as they waited for ten days? (God worked out the people problems)

What happened after the 120 obeyed the Lord and waited for the Holy Spirit to come to them? (God used them for a great harvest)

When God asks us to wait, He is not telling us to drop what we are doing and to start doing something else.

When we wait upon the Lord he renews our strength by changing our beliefs and behaviors through the Holy Spirit.

When we go forward with God's plans and His energy we are able to sustain our journey and overcome obstacles.

Once you overcome an obstacle you will develop the spiritual maturity to no longer consider it an obstacle in the future.

When Paul went to Ephesus he started by finding disciples...

Acts 19:1 (KJV)

And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples,

...It is the nature of a disciple to continue to grow and learn.

Acts 19:2 (NLT)

[2] "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" he asked them.

“No,” they replied, “we don’t know what you mean. We haven’t even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.”

Acts 19:6-7 (NLT)

Then when Paul laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in other tongues and prophesied. [7] There were about twelve men in all.

Paul then spent three months doing what he thought was the right thing to do...

Acts 19:8 (NKJV)

And he went into the synagogue and spoke boldly for three months, reasoning and persuading concerning the things of the kingdom of God.

Acts 19:9 (NKJV)

But when some were hardened and did not believe, but spoke evil of the Way before the multitude, he departed from them and withdrew the disciples, reasoning daily in the school of Tyrannus.

He was then directed by the Holy Spirit to train the disciples in a daily setting which brought a greater impact...

Acts 19:10 (NKJV)

And this continued for two years, so that all who dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks.

God can do the most in a sustained period of time when we gather for training, direction and empowerment by the Holy Spirit.

After waiting two years...

- Ref. Acts 19:11-20
- God begins performing extraordinary miracles. (Is this better than words?)
- Authority over the demonic is real
- Those who practiced magic renounced their beliefs and destroyed \$M+
- The word of the Lord prevailed mightily and all who lived in Asia heard the word.

The market place has a term for waiting before acting on ideas...

“Incubators”

Watching and Waiting

- Luke 16:8b (NKJV)
- ... For the sons of this world are more shrewd in their generation than the sons of light.
- 1 Cor. 15:46 (NKJV)
- However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural, and afterward the spiritual.

Today God is calling people to come together for training, direction, and spiritual empowerment to change their world.

We are planning and providing the training for new and existing avenues to be filled with disciples who are ready to reach their world with the gospel.

The first three doors...

- SALT Discipleship Training for all Skyway members
- Skyway Intern Ministry for those called into leadership and ministry
- Skyway Chaplain Ministry for those called to the front lines of ministry.

SALT

This is the beginning place to have a world view based upon a biblical foundation.

When your will agrees with God's will your life begins to come together.

Internship

- Prepare disciples to work together within a godly structure
- Identify life calling
- Release into existing ministries
- Create and release new ministries

Chaplains

- Billy Graham Crisis Certification
- Skyway Pastoral Care Chaplains
- Certified Licensed Chaplains to conduct Christian weddings, serve at hospitals, and with local city government.

If you really want to make a difference in your world, are you ready to prioritize your time, resources, and lifestyle for the Kingdom of God?