



Life that Glorifies the Father (Part 2)

Spiritual Exercise

⁷ Then Moses called Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel, "Be strong and of good courage, for you must go with this people to the land which the LORD has sworn to their fathers to give them, and you shall cause them to inherit it. ⁸ And the LORD, He *is* the One who goes before you. He will be with you, He will not leave you nor forsake you; do not fear nor be dismayed."

Deuteronomy 31:7-8

Then He inaugurated Joshua the son of Nun, and said, "Be strong and of good courage; for you shall bring the children of Israel into the land of which I swore to them, and I will be with you."

Deuteronomy 31:23

⁶ Be strong and of good courage, for to this people you shall divide as an inheritance the land which I swore to their fathers to give them. ⁷ Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go. ⁸ This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. ⁹ Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God *is* with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:6-9

Prayer

Introduction

When Jesus was on this earth, He left us more than fifty commands to guide our participation with Him, the Father and the Holy Spirit. In Matthew 5:16, Jesus commands us to "let your light so shine before men that they see your good work and glorify your Father in Heaven." In this command, there is a mystery; a mystery that will radically change our work, ministry and family life. It is the mystery of "our light" and the work that glorifies God.

As we continue to explore the mystery of God's glory, let's look into the promises of the life that glorifies God and the ways it might manifest in our lives. Why is the American church not seeing more of His glory, and what must Marketplace Leaders do to begin seeing His glory in the ministries to which they have been called? These are personal and corporate questions that must be faced with courage and faith in God's willingness and ability to transform us into His good pleasure.

Definition

Grace (Hebrew – *chen*): favour, grace, charm.

Outline of Biblical Usage, BlueLetterBible.org

Grace (Greek – *charis*): grace (that which affords joy, pleasure, delight, sweetness, charm, loveliness: grace of speech); good will, loving-kindness, favour (of the merciful kindness by which God, exerting his holy influence upon souls, turns them to Christ, keeps, strengthens, increases them in Christian faith, knowledge, affection, and kindles them to the exercise of the Christian virtues); what is due to grace (the spiritual condition of one governed by the power of divine grace, the token or proof of grace, benefit/gift); thanks (for benefits, services, favours), recompense, reward.

Outline of Biblical Usage, BlueLetterBible.org

Grace empowers us to live a holy life; it is not a valid excuse for us to avoid the pursuit of it.

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(continued)

Searching Out the Matter

(All Scripture references, but those noted, are NKJV; Thomas Nelson, Inc.; footnotes and headings excluded)

The Glory Promise

Galatians 3:5

Ephesians 2:10

Joshua 24:1-13

2Chronicles 16:9a

Ephesians 3:14-21

Philippians 2:12-13

2Corinthians 4:6

John 1:4

How will It Look... Anticipations

Christ's instructions (aka, commission) are found in each of the Gospels and in the first chapter of Acts. Read each account, and consider the following highlights:

Matthew 28:16-20

1. Christ first established that He had been given the authority to commission them.
2. He expected them to go to all the nations.
3. Baptizing was an important expectation (and worth searching out).
4. They were not to just teach Christ's commands, but to teach them to observe the commands. From Vines Dictionary, this means to "to watch over, preserve" – a word close to "steward".

Mark 16:15-20

1. Signs will follow those who believe – they are for the church, not the unsaved.
2. These signs are supernatural and involve the spiritual realm.
3. Though it was His followers that went out and preached, it was the "Lord working".

Luke 24:44-53

1. An understanding of the Old Testament is important – particularly as it relates to Christ.
2. Repentance and remission of sins are an important part of the message.
3. The disciple's mind is opened, by Christ, to understand the Scriptures.
4. They waited to be endued with power.
5. It was important to note that He blessed them.
6. The result was great joy, and them praising and blessing God.

John 20:19-23

1. Disciple making produces peace – the peace of God that transcends all understanding.
2. Evidence of Christ's suffering and sacrifice are a part of the disciple maker's character.
3. Jesus sends His disciple makers as the Father sent Him – to do only what He is doing. A properly made disciple has exchanged their life for Christ's.
4. The Holy Spirit is given by Christ, and must be received by the one being made.

Life that Glorifies the Father (Part 2) (continued)

5. Incredibly, disciples are given the authority to forgive and retain sins – as was Jesus (John 5:27).

Acts 1:4-8

1. There is not only a baptism in water, but one in the Holy Spirit. This baptism requires a “waiting”.
2. This baptism “when the Holy Spirit comes upon you” precludes the disciple bearing witness to Jesus.

Acts 4:33

Where Do We Start?

John 14:23

Psalm 37:3-6

2Corinthians 4:16-18

Assignment

1. Review your notes and the Scripture passages from this week’s module. Share the ones that are most meaningful to someone you are discipling.
2. What might your work look like when others see it and glorify your Father in Heaven? Has God given you any anticipation for your future assignment?

Devotion

God Is Not About YOUR Success

TGIF Today God Is First Volume 2 by Os Hillman
Tuesday, November 02, 2010

"I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. The man who loves his life will lose it, while the man who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life." John 12:24-26

God is all about your death so that HIS success can be realized through you! This is why the Church is having such little impact - there are too many believers who have not yet died to their old nature so that Christ can live fully through them. When believers come to the end of themselves they will lose their lives to Him and live through the power of the Holy Spirit and begin to see the reality of a living gospel that impacts lives, workplaces, cities and nations.

"Much of modern Christian enterprise is 'Ishmael.' Born not of God, but of an inordinate desire to do God's will in our own way - the one thing our Lord never did," said Oswald Chambers. The psalmist describes what it means to live in our own strength:

"Unless the LORD builds the house, its builders labor in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain. In vain you rise early and stay up late, toiling for food to eat - for he grants sleep to those he loves" (Ps 127:1-2).

How does one die so that Christ can be our all and all? It usually takes a crisis of significant proportions for most people to relinquish the control of their lives. It means we come to the end of ourselves and our striving to control the events in our lives and we finally come to the place where we can say, "Lord, I surrender. Please take full control of my life."

Have you come to this place with God in your life? Let go and let God make you a success His way.