

State of the Church 2018: Discipleship

Matthew 28.16-20, Hebrews 5.11-6.3

A. What Jesus thought was important for his followers:

Matthew 22.36-40: Loving God and loving others (worship and ministry)

Matthew 28.16-20: Go and make disciples of all nations (evangelism)

Teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you (discipleship)

B. What we think is important for our church:

Mission statement of BDBC: *Sharing God's Love Through Worship, Ministry, Evangelism, **Discipleship**, and Fellowship*

C. An exhortation from the writer of Hebrews (Hebrews 5.11-6.3):

DON'T STOP GROWING

Our Goal as followers of Jesus: **BECOME LIKE CHRIST.**

So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Ephesians 4.11-13

D. How Becoming a Disciple & Learning the Ways of Jesus Benefits Us:

1. It **PLEASES** God.

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. 2 Peter 3.18

The decrees of the Lord are firm, and all of them are righteous...By them your servant is warned; in keeping them there is great reward. Ps.19.9-11

2. We make better **DECISIONS.**

But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil. Hebrews 5.14

3. We are equipped to **PASS** on the **FAITH.**

...you ought to be teachers ... Hebrews 5.12

4. It **BUILDS UP** the church.

...to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith. Ephesians 4.12-13

5. It protects us against **LOSING** our **FAITH.**

Blessed is the one.... whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night. That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—whatever they do prospers. Psalm 1.1-3

E. How to Learn from Jesus: It starts with scripture.

1. **PRIORITIZE IT** *...you no longer try to understand...* Hebrews 5.11

2. **READ IT, PONDER IT, STUDY IT**

Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness... Hebrews 5.13

3. **LIVE BY IT** *...who by constant use...* Hebrews 5.14

"Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. Matthew 7.24-25

4. **REPEAT IT**

...have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil ... Hebrews 5.14

5. **TEACH IT** *...you ought to be teachers...* Hebrews 4.12

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What is God saying to me?

What am I going to do about it?