

I'll start this morning by sharing a scripture with you.

It's Romans 8:28, it reads

And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose.

For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to become* conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brothers *and sisters*; and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.

Hebrews 1:3 says that Jesus was the radiance of God's glory, the exact representation of God's nature, and upheld all things by the word of God's power.

God's desire from the beginning, and His calling for us, was that ALL of His children would radiate His glory, represent His nature, and speak His word with power.

This was God's plan from the very beginning. To deliver us from our fallen state and re-create the Life of Christ in us. He did everything necessary to make that happen by His own supernatural work. He called us, He justified us, and He glorified us, so that we would be conformed to Christ and possess His eternal life.

Jesus is the Living Word of God. In other words what God wanted to say to the whole world, He sent Jesus to manifest and demonstrate it. He was the Word that became flesh among us.

Jesus told the Father in John 17, just as you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. In other words I've sent them to accomplish the same purpose that you sent me here for.

Jesus said, a disciple is not above his teacher. It's enough that the disciple become as his teacher.

You are all familiar with Matthew 28.18, we call it the great commission. Jesus said ,
"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. YOU GO, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to follow all that I commanded you; and behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

The word used for teaching in the Greek means, to impart knowledge.
Now I don't believe this was a totally academic presentation.

We know that Jesus was a carpenter by trade.

But can you really picture Jesus walking all around the countryside with a custom-made wooden podium telling His disciples, come on guys, hurry and take your seats, I've got an important lesson to teach you. If you don't complete all of the classes, I can't give you your ordination papers.

Can you see Peter and John telling each other, it's your turn to carry the podium, I carried it all the way up the mount of olives last time? It's pretty ridiculous isn't it?

I think Jesus teaching His disciples was a whole lot more like the way a martial arts instructor teaching his students.

When the students go to the gym they don't get out their notebooks to learn martial arts. The instructor says, I'm going to show you this take down. He throws the student to the floor and then says, now you try it. The student tries it unsuccessfully. The instructor says, your feet are too close together spread them out and try it again. He does it again unsuccessfully. He says you're not using the right leverage. Try it again. The student continues to attempt the take down until he can successfully do it.

The Apostle Paul spoke to the Corinthians and said, I didn't come to you with slick, persuasive preaching. I came with the demonstration of the spirit and power so that your faith would not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

Jesus said teach them everything that I taught you. What did he teach his disciples for 3 1/2 years? Here are just a few things.

His main message was repent for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.

In other words repent of the useless life that you inherited from Adam and Eve because the one that you were originally created for is here now.

To you it has been granted to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven but to them it has not been granted.

Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness and all these things will be added unto you.

Unless you're born again you cannot see the kingdom of God and unless you're born of the spirit you cannot enter it.

Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure hidden in the field which a man found and went and sold all that he had that he might buy the field.

Do you see the recurring theme in His teaching. It's the Kingdom of God.

He also taught them things like:

That which is born of the flesh is flesh that which is born of the Spirit is Spirit.

My words are Spirit and they are life. Your flesh profits absolutely nothing.

It was more of a workshop than a lecture series. They learned by doing.

John baptized with water for repentance but you will be baptized by the Holy Spirit and will receive My power to accomplish the Father's purposes.

He gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every kind of disease and every kind of sickness.

He instructed them saying, as you go preach, saying, the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons, freely you have received, freely give.

I will give you the Keys of the Kingdom of heaven and whatever you shall bind on Earth shall be bound in heaven and whatever you loose on Earth shall be loosed in heaven.

If you have faith as a mustard seed, you shall say to this mountain, move from here to there and it shall move, and nothing shall be impossible to you.

Everything that the Father has is mine, that is what I meant when I said that the Holy Spirit will take of mine and will give it to you.

Truly truly I say to you, he who believes in me, the works that I do shall he do also, and greater works than these shall he do, because I go to the Father.

Unless you die to your old life you'll never be able to walk in my eternal life.

Unless a kernel of wheat dies and is buried it abides by itself and bears no fruit. But if it dies it bears much fruit.

He who does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me.

Here's what I believe God is saying to us today.

I'm requiring you to WALK WORTHY OF THE CALLING that I have predestined you to walk in

In the Apostle Paul's letters to the Colossian and Ephesian believers he exhorted them to put off their old dead nature and put on the new nature which was created in righteousness and holiness like Christ. Colossians 3.9 and Ephesians 4.24.

It's hard to comprehend why we or anyone else would want to hang on to our spiritually dead, useless way of life, inherited from Adam and Eve and not accept the eternal life of God that His incomparable love has made available to us as His children.

The life that Jesus manifested and demonstrated on earth was the result of Him being completely filled by the Holy Spirit.

The Father is expecting us to put off our old dead life and allowing the Holy Spirit to manifest the Life of Christ in us and through us. He put us in Christ so that we would be able to do exactly that.

The Apostle John says it another way in chapter 2 of his first letter.

By this we know that we are in Him: the one who says that he abides in Him ought, himself also, to walk just as He walked.

God's intention from the beginning was to recreate the Life of Christ in us so that we can be His supreme creation to manifest His life to the rest of the world.

I believe what God is saying, is that to walk worthy of our calling, is to think like He thinks, speak like He speaks, give like He gives, and love like He loves.

1 Peter 4.11 states,

Whoever speaks, let him speak, as it were, the utterances of God, whoever serves let him do so by the strength which God supplies, so that in all things God may be glorified in Jesus Christ.

God is asking us to allow God to say what He wants to say, do what He wants to do, and accomplish all of His purposes IN US AN THROUGH US. Jesus came and demonstrated the eternal life of God that He has given to us. He is asking us to repent and discard our own natural lives and live His eternal life for the benefit of others.

Jesus said, greater love has no man than this, that He will lay down his life for his friends.

Today's religion encourages people to study the Bible in order to change. But if studying the Bible alone would have transformed our fallen nature, manifested the life of the Father, and established His kingdom in the Earth, the Pharisees would have done it a long time ago.

They had to memorize the entire Bible just to become a Pharisee. But as Paul said, it's the letter kills, but it's the Spirit Who gives life.

Jesus also didn't tell Nicodemus in John chapter 3, brother, you need to really study your Bible more.

He told him, you must be born again or you cannot see the kingdom and you must be born of the Spirit or you cannot enter it.

Today's religion is men trying to do the best impression of Jesus that their flesh can do. Jesus said, it's the Spirit Who gives life, your flesh profits absolutely nothing. Religious effort will never produce the Kingdom of God in this world. Apart from the empowering of the Holy Spirit in our lives, our efforts to fulfill God's plan for this world will be the efforts of MERE MEN.

God's not looking for Bible scholars. He's looking for sons who think His thoughts with Him, and speak His words empowered by His Holy Spirit, and manifest His life to every country and people group on this planet.

Let me close with one last scripture. It's Ephesians 3.16 amp

The Apostle Paul's prayer gives an awesome description of what I believe "walking worthy of the calling" means. He prayed,

May He grant you out of the rich treasury of His glory to be strengthened *and* reinforced with mighty power in the inner man by the [Holy] Spirit [Himself indwelling your innermost being and personality].

May Christ through your faith [actually] dwell (settle down, abide, make His permanent home) in your hearts! May you be rooted deep in love *and* founded securely on love,

That you may have the power *and* be strong to apprehend *and* grasp with all the saints [God's devoted people, the experience of that love] what is the breadth and length and height and depth [of it];

[That you may really come] to know [practically, through experience for yourselves] the love of Christ, which far surpasses mere knowledge [without experience]; that you may be filled [through all your being] unto all the fullness of God [may have the richest measure of the divine Presence, and become a body wholly filled and flooded with God Himself]!

A revelation of God's incomparable love for us and the experience of His love is what makes this our reality.

We need to let Him do exceedingly beyond anything that we could ask or think, by His power that works within us.

God bless you.

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