

Real Disciples, Real Transformation

Finding Your Purpose

Key Text: John 8:31-32

To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?" Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

- Jesus wants more than a belief in Him
- real disciples real transformation
- Know the truth- truth brings freedom
- You have a permanent place in the family
- Need to allow the word/truth to shape us, shape our values
- It is not Covid that keeps us in house arrest! It is our fears that keeps from facing real transformation
- Truth of who we really are not what we pretend to be, Truth of who God really is and not what we imagine Him to be
- Transformation comes by changing the way we see/think about ourselves and God

Romans 12:2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Peter's Identity

2 Peter 1:1 NASB

Simon Peter, a bond-servant and apostle of Jesus Christ,

- This how Peter saw himself
 - Bond Servant
 - Apostle
- How did he go from a fisherman to this?

God Was at Work

Philippians 2:12-13

So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, both to desire and to work for *His* good pleasure.

- Fear and trembling
- Isaiah 66:2 Has not my hand made all these things, and so they came into being?" declares the Lord. "These are the ones I look on with favor: those who are humble and contrite in spirit, and who tremble at my word.
- Some tremble more at what Fauci says than God
- God is working His good pleasure in us

Peter gets a Name Change

Matthew 16:15-18

"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah,

for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

Why did Jesus rename his disciples?

The Bible doesn't give us His reasons, but perhaps it was to let them know they were destined for a new mission in life. The new name was a way to reveal the divine plan and also to assure them that God's plan would be fulfilled in them.

Peter Rebukes Jesus

Matthew 16:15-18

From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!" Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns." Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life [f] will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done. "Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

Jesus left us with a Mission

Matthew 23:14-15,24-27

"Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey... "Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.' "His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.

- **Our service to God and others is determined by how we view God AND ourselves.**

Are you willing to join in this transformation process and become a bond-servant of the Lord Jesus Christ?

The World is Waiting.....For You... to be the Church..His People

<https://vimeo.com/498067124>