

Lives Being Restored
“Growing Disciples”
10-12-08

Vision Statement: “...*Growing disciples and leaders in Christ’s likeness...*”

Jesus: Go into all the world and make Disciples (spiritual apprentices) Matt. 28:19

Paul: “*The things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.*” 2 Tim. 2:2

Theme Verse: 1 Cor. 3:9-10 *For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as an expert builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should be careful how he builds.*

FOCUS: How are you progressing in your “spiritual apprenticeship”? (discipleship)
Apprentice (Intern) – Journeyman - Master Craftsman

“Disciple” – *A fully devoted follower of Jesus who is being trained in:* Word, Witness, Worship, Prayer, Stewardship, Serving, and Discipling Relationships

- Relational training is the key: consistent time, dialogue, prayer, Word, sharing life, etc.

“Discipler” – relationally instructing / modeling / mentoring others in how to follow Christ through: Word, Witness, Worship, Prayer, Stewardship, Serving, and Discipling Relationships

Paul’s Evaluation: “*I could not address you as spiritual but worldly (fleshly NASB) – mere infants in Christ...milk not solid food for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed you are still not ready.*” 1 Cor. 3:1-2

“Fleshly” – carnal; spiritually immature, not yet controlled by the Spirit but human desires, worldly views, etc.

“Spiritual” - “mind of Christ”; spiritually mature living by the Spirit of God, NOT the spirit of world (2:12)

Corinth Issues: Immaturity; “lack of growth” & progress.
Worldly / Fleshly thinking vs. “mind of Christ” 2:12-13

Our Issues and Evaluation:

Are we growing spiritually and learning to disciple others?

Immature (fleshly/worldly)

Need spiritual milk
Apprentice

Mature (spiritual)

Handle solid food
Expert Builder

Check Spiritual “building materials” - fruit of spirit, character; biblical thinking, attitudes becoming actions, etc.

Temporary

“wood, hay, straw”

Burned up

survives

Eternal

“gold, silver, costly stones”

Remains/

Since we all are called to “make disciples”, what is my plan for spiritual growth and discipling others?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

2 Timothy 2:15

“Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.”