

Saturate

Lesson 4 “Lifestyle of a Disciple”

I. Introduction - We are in a series on how to fulfill the church vision called “Saturate.” The goal of the series is for all of us to learn God’s plan for how He wants to saturate the Triad with Jesus.

A. The plan is to make disciples (**devoted followers** of Jesus.)

1. Devotion is deeper than commitment. Commitment is doing what is required, while devotion is a transformation of the heart where all we want to do is what God wants us to do. It’s the difference between law and grace.

a. Devotion is giving oneself wholly over to something, not doing the bare minimum.

b. Marriage example

2. **Week 2** - We talked about the process of discipleship and how right behaving comes from right believing. As we are affirmed in our identity, it will produce a heart change in us. Example: Shulamite Woman

3. **Week 3** - Replication is the Key to Saturation. We looked at how Paul replicated himself into Timothy and that helped Timothy walk in his divine purpose (pastor the church in Ephesus), which freed Paul up to walk in Paul’s divine purpose, which was to travel to Rome and strengthen the church in Rome.

B. Today, we want to go a little further and talk about the Lifestyle of a Disciple. We are going to answer the question, “What does the life of a devoted follower look like?”

II. Lifestyle of a Disciple

A. **2 Timothy 2:1-6**

1. **Verse 1** - We are to be strong in grace (God’s ability), not our own ability. Why? God’s ability is unlimited. The word therefore is at the beginning of this verse. This thought is linked to previous verses talking about suffering, persecution, and being abandoned. God’s ability gives us the ability to overcome anything! **This is key in discipleship because you won’t be able follow Jesus very far in your natural strength.**

2. **Verse 2** Paul told Timothy to commit things to faithful men who can teach others also. This is the passage God gave to Andrew Wommack when he told him to start Charis Bible College.

a. God is looking for people who are faithful. If we aren’t faithful, what do we need? More faith.

b. Faithful people take the things that are taught to them and they teach others also. Replication is the key to saturation.

3. *Verses 3-4* - We must see ourselves like soldiers. This also means there will be hardship. **1 Peter 4:1** - We are to arm ourselves with the mind we will suffer. What happens when a soldier doesn't arm himself? He gets wounded.
- a. When we sent troops to Iraq, they were there on a mission. They weren't there to have fun, they were there to get a job done. I'm not saying we can't have fun, but our focus needs to be the mission. Co-Mission means we are on a mission. We are to co-labor with God.
 - b. affairs - **pragmateía** - a transaction, i.e. negotiation:—affair. **The second thing we don't need to get entangled in is money.**
 - i. Some people chase money - that's wrong.
 - ii. Other's disobey what God tells them to do because of a perceived lack of funds. That's wrong. When the U.S. sends a soldier into battle the soldier isn't required to finance the battle, the U.S. is. The same is true for us when God tells us to do something. He's responsible to pay for it. We just need to believe.
4. *Verse 5* - Athletes have to play by the rules to win the game. There are principles to the kingdom of God we have to abide by if we want to win in life.
- a. Give and it shall be given to you, turn the other cheek, if you want to be great in the kingdom serve others, etc.
 - b. Great athletes deny themselves. They are focused and don't feed their flesh. They are discipline. The word disciple comes from the root word for discipline. ex: Mike Tyson, Buster Douglas Example.
5. *Verse 6* Farmers should partake of the crops before they give them to others.
- a. We need to have the word of God bare fruit in our lives before we teach it to others. We need to practice what we preach (not perfectly, but to some extent.) Ralph Waldo Emerson "What you do speaks so loudly, I can't hear the words you say."
 - b. A true disciple is genuine. If they mess up, the own and make it right. We aren't hypocrites. We are genuinely pursuing the things of God.
 - c. My financial testimony example from the Great Recession. People wanted to hear because they saw the word working in my life.

III. Conclusion - Disciples are those who are saturated with God. Their focus is on Jesus above and else so what God is doing in their lives supernaturally overflows to others. If you want to be a difference make this is what your life needs to look like.

A. Call Up Prayer Team

B. Pray Closing Prayer - Ask for the empowerment of the Holy Spirit so we can be strong in God's grace.