

REVIVING AUTHENTIC CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

EMPHASIZING AUTHENTICITY AND INTEGRITY

Introduction

- *Authenticity* and *Integrity* are often sacrificed in pursuit of success
- What truly mattered to Jesus, was **the restructuring and commitments of His disciple's passionate love relationships**
- **Christian disciple-making.**
- **Modern man's predicament:**
 - the lack of seriousness
 - a sinking sense of double standards

- **Biblical Authority**
- **Necessity of Conversion and the Redeeming Work of Christ**
- **Personal Piety**
- **Orthodoxy**

STUDY SCRIPTURE DEEPLY

- **Set a Regular Study Schedule:**

- Read with Purpose
- Use Study Tools
- Join a Study Group
- Pray for Understanding

- **Understanding the Teachings of Jesus**

- Contextual Reading
- Parables and Miracles
- Teachings on Love and Service
- Examine Jesus' Interactions

STUDY SCRIPTURE DEEPLY

- **Reflect and Internalize**

- Meditate on Scripture
- Journal Your Insights
- Apply the Teachings
- Seek Further Understanding

- **Continual Growth**

- Lifelong Learning
- Stay Open to God's Leading

Warning

- DEAD ORTHODOXY

NECESSITY OF CONVERSION and a VIGOROUS VIEW OF THE GOSPEL

- Biblical Theology – God’s Big Story!
- *“God is drawing to Himself a people, though His Son our Lord Jesus Christ, to live in His place, under His rule, enjoying his blessing!”*

Luke 4:17-21

- Was it really possible that justice, peace and righteousness were about to be established forever?
- Was Jesus really the promised King?
- Was He the King who would proclaim the year of jubilee for the poor
- (Isaiah 35:1-6; 53:5; 61:1-2)

- Announced His Kingdom >>>> Demonstrated His Kingdom
 - 2 Cor 5:17-21

 - 1 Thess 4:1-10
 - Ephesians 2:1-9
 - 1 John 5:9-12

Mission and Evangelism are essential elements of educational ministry.

1. We must know the moral law.
2. We must have experienced regeneration and conversion.
3. We must devote time and energy to nurturing students in faith.
4. Sound educational evangelism presumes a knowledge of Christian theology.
5. “Passing on the baton”
6. Prayer commitment.
7. Help parents to make the Christian faith significant.

Warning

- regimented “programmes” of discipleship and soul winning
 - Dietrich Bonhoeffer - “*cheap grace*”
- social involvement that ignores the proclamation of the gospel

Fundamental doctrines of the gospel:

- The incarnation and virgin birth of Christ
- His sinless life
- Substitutionary atonement
- Bodily resurrection

- **Justification by faith alone, through grace alone, in Christ alone!**

Thomas H Groome *Christian Religious Education*

1. What is the nature of Christian Education?
2. Why is Christian Education essential?
3. Where is Christian Education undertaken?
4. How is Christian Education conducted?
5. When is it appropriate to share particular Christian truths and experiences?
6. Who is interacting in Christian Education?

Erroll Hulse - *The Preacher and Piety*

- *“The making of the person of the preacher is a vastly more complex and difficult matter than the making of a sermon, just as the making of the Concorde supersonic plane is vastly more intricate than the flying of it.”*
- **Calvin**
 - **PIETY:** *“the union of reverence and love to God, which the knowledge of His benefits inspires.”*

Murray M'Cheyne

- *“A holy minister is an awful weapon in the hand of God.”*
 - *“Lord, make me as holy as a pardoned sinner can be.”*
- *‘God gave me a message and a horse. I have killed the horse. Oh what shall I do with the message?’*

Landmines:

- **A lack of self-denial**
- **Nervous tension**
- **Moral failure** - Proverbs 4:23; 1 Cor 9:26-27; Job 31:1
 - (Isaiah 26:3; Prov 7:2; Psalm 37:3-4)
- **Pride and selfish ambition**
 - Henry Martin - *‘Men frequently admire me, and I am pleased; but I abhor the pleasure that I feel.’*
- **Falling away from the truth** - John 17:17

Warning against shallow piety -

- - *“holier than thou”* attitude
- simplistic solutions to complex social problems

H Richard Niebuhr

- 1. Christ against Culture*
- 2. Christ of Culture*
- 3. Christ above Culture*
- 4. Christ and Culture in Paradox*
- 5. Christ the transformer of Culture*

ORTHODOX FOUNDATIONS

Solas

- **To God Alone the Glory (Soli Deo Gloria)**
- **Scripture Alone (Sola Scriptura)**
- **Christ Alone (Solus Christus)**
- **By Faith Alone (Sola Fide)**
- **By Grace Alone (Sola Gratia)**

ORTHODOX FOUNDATIONS

- The Three Forms of Unity (Belgic Confession, Heidelberg Catechism, and Canons of Dordt); or
- The Westminster Standards (Confessions of Faith, Larger Catechism, and Shorter Catechism); or
- The London Baptist Confession of Faith.

APOSTOLIC CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,

Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;

He descended to hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the universal church,

The communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

The resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.