

The Message Gathering

How To Become A Disciple Maker!

Session 4: Life Is Ministry!

Review:

Week 1: How You Are Built By God - You Do You!

Week 2: Our Connection To God; The Realities Of The Disciple's Relationship -
Continually Connected

Week 3: Our Need For Less Religion And More Relationship

Week 4 (Today): The Reality That Ministry Is Life!

The Three Simple Realities Of Ministry:

1. You Personally Know The Living God
2. You Personally Live With The Living God
3. You Personally Share This Living God With Those In Your World

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (NIV)

Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; ²⁰ you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.

Romans 12:1-6 (MSG)

So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him.² Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.³ I'm speaking to you out of deep gratitude for all that God has given me, and especially as I have responsibilities in relation to you. Living then, as every one of you does, in pure grace, it's important that you not misinterpret yourselves as people who are bringing this goodness to God. No, God brings it all to you. The only accurate way to understand ourselves is by what God is and by what he does for us, not by what we are and what we do for him.⁴ In this way we are like the various parts of a human body. Each part gets its meaning from the body as a whole, not the other way around.⁵ The body we're talking about is Christ's body of chosen people. Each of us finds our meaning and function as a part of his body. But as a chopped-off finger or cut-off toe we wouldn't amount to much, would we? So since we find ourselves fashioned into all these excellently formed and marvelously functioning parts in Christ's body,⁶ let's just go ahead and be what we were made to be, without enviously or pridefully comparing ourselves with each other, or trying to be something we aren't. . . .

Today's Statement Of Truth:

Learning To Live Your Everyday Life With The Living God
Will Empower You To Live Your Life As A Faithful Minister Of Christ.

Questions:

- Today, What One Truth Or Statement Impacted You Most?
- What Comes To Mind When You Think Of The Term, "Personal Ministry"?
- Share Your Thoughts About The Reality That God Does The "Super" And We're Only Called To Do The "Natural".

- Why Do You Think That Many Believers Oftimes Try To Be Something Or Someone They Were Never Intended To Be?
- Of The Three Realities Of Ministry, Knowing The Living God, Living With The Living God, And Sharing The Living God With Your World, Which One Are You Best At And Which One Needs The Most Work And Why?
- What One Thing Can You Do This Week To Fulfill Your Personal Ministry In Christ?