A Mind To Work

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Matthew 28: 18-20—“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, all power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. (19) Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. (20) Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world, Amen.”

Jesus wants to fill the world with his disciples. What are his disciples?

A disciple is:

A follower—Luke 9:59

An imitator—Matthew 10:25

A Christian—Acts 11:26

Christ-ones—those who learned of, followed, and imitated Christ

Christians who repented of their sins and had been baptized for the forgiveness of sins—Acts 2:38

They are added to the Church

The Work of the Church:

To make disciples in order that men may be saved Matt 28:19; Mark 16:15-16

The church is to preach the gospel

To teach those that obey the gospel all things that Jesus taught so that they may grow as disciples of the church Matthew 28:20

To care for those in need Acts 2:44-45

The work of the local church is autonomous. It is not wrong for congregations to work together for a common cause. (Disaster relief, etc.)

The Church as a Body

The Church is the body of Christ Ephesians 1:22-23

As the body of Christ, the body has only one head, Christ. He possess all authority in the church

I Corinthians 12: 12-27 Paul is speaking here and brings out many points

First: he says that the church is one body with many members. (12)

Second: Each member was baptized into the one body. (13)

Third: Each member is important. (14-17)

Fourth: God set each member in the body as he pleased. (18) This means each member has different abilities (talents) as God has given them to use.

Fifth: All members are needed. (20-24).

Sixth: The body is to be united. (25).

Seventh: The Church is made up of people who love, respect and care for each other in order that the work of the Church can be accomplished.

Paul states that when all parts accomplish their duties the Church functions properly. (Ephesians 4:16)

Finding My Place:

Matthew 25: 14-29 (Parable of the talents)

Every member of the body of Christ has a place and a talent that they can offer to the Church to see to it that the Church grows as it is commanded.

The issue of the talents was not the number of talents that each individual had, but what they did with what they had been entrusted with.

Mark 14:1-9 (the woman had done what she could)

How Do We Find Our Place:

First: Study the scripture to see what Christ expects us to do. (Romans 12)

In verses 6-8 if we consider prophesy as preaching, we have preaching, ministry, teaching, exhortation, giving money, leadership, and acts of mercy.

In verses 9-21 we have acts of love, doing good rather than evil, brotherly affection, giving honor, diligence joy, patience prayer, serving the needs of others, hospitality, giving blessing, sympathy, unity associating with the lowly, living peaceful with all, and kindness toward our enemies.

Second: Try different areas of service to see what you can do well

Third: Pray for wisdom to find your place

Fourth: Ask others what they think your areas of strength are.

Fifth: Have a good attitude don’t let Satan have a place in our lives.

Sixth: Look for things that need to be done and volunteer to do them.

Seventh: Be determined and ask “What Can I Do?” have a mind to work.

CONCLUSION:

The key to motivation is hard work

The fulfilling mission of the church is twofold:

First: Let us love Christ with all of our hearts, and let us allow this love to spur us on to active service in the Church.

Second: When we work in the Church we need to recognize our service is to the Lord and not man. Colossians 3:23

Disciples of Christ are never to be spectators and watch others do the work of the Church.

Each one of us needs to be actively involved in the service of Christ.

This can happen when we have “A Mind To Work.”

I Corinthians 15:58