



MC Chapel Fellowship

Sunday, March 21, 2021

Today's message:

Equipped for Life and Ministry Series

Part Two: Born Again and Eternal Security

Lesson Two: Work Out and Grow Up

Text: Philippians 2:12-16

Introduction: Work Out and Grow Up

- **The Biblical New Testament Phrase, “Born Again” – What does it Really Mean?**
- **The Billy Graham Crusades and Others Made this Phrase into “Instant Salvation”.**
- **Multitudes of Christians believed they Received Eternal Life – Never to Lose It!**
- **2nd Lesson of Part Two “Work Out and Grow Up” Brings to Light Scripture on:**
 - What it Means to Work With God to become Sanctified and Obtain the Grace of God**
 - What it Means to Grow in the Knowledge of Christ – to be Filled with the Fulness of Christ.**
 - Counting the Cost in Entering The Narrow Gate and Hard Path of the Discipline of the Lord**
- **Lesson Objectives:**
 - To Understand and the Discipline of the Lord and Obtaining God’s Grace**

”He disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; **Hebrews 12:10-15**

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. Do all things without grumbling or disputing, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. **Philippians 2:12-16**

Work Out and Grow Up into a Beatitude Christian

- **Why the New Covenant Replaces the Old?**

The Old Taught a Religious Code of Rules that Were Susceptible to Hypocrisy

God's People Put their Faith in Religious Activity

The New Teaches God's People to Put Faith in a Relationship with God thru Christ.

- **Most Christians are Misled into a John the Baptist Faith in Christ.**

The Law Shows We Can't Live Up to God's Standard of Holiness

Legalistic Christians Drive Adherers into Self-Reliance, Competition, and Fakery

Leading Many Christians to "Fake It Until You Make It"

Suffocating True Faith by –

Suppressing, Pretending, Ignoring, Anesthetizing (deprive feeling or awareness)

- **The Law - Given By Moses – Grace and Truth Comes by Having a Christ Relationship**

- **Grace, Truth, and Death**

- **Beatitude Living is Impossible Without Killing the Old Nature**

In Christ, the Laws Becomes Biblical Principles that Transforms the Whole Person.

Work Out and Grow Up into a Beatitude Christian

- **Christ Leads God's People into the Way – the Way of Cross.**

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." **1 Corinthians 1:18-19**

- **The Born-Again Honeymoon Eventually Wears Off.**

Because of the Truncated Gospel – Most Christians Fall Into Three Modes

- 1. Enemies of the Cross – Hypocrites to the Reality of the Old Carnal Nature.**
- 2. Struggle and Resort to Spiritualism and Lust for Counterfeit Manifestations.**
- 3. Back Slide into Secret Sin and Eventually Fall Away from Following Christ.**

- **Few Christian Hear the Rest of the Gospel –**

Live on the Milk of the Word: **Hebrews 5:11-14**

The Need to Work with God to Actually Put to Death the Old Nature.

The Old Nature is Initially Held at Bay When One First Comes to Christ.

Then, When Understanding Comes – the Holy Spirit Begins a War Within Us

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. **Galatians 5:16-18**

Work Out and Grow Up into a Beatitude Christian

- **Trials, Relationship Conflict, Adversity, Satanic Spiritual Oppression**
 - **Cue Up Old Nature Issues of Heart and Personal Spirit.**
 - **Rooted in Past Trauma, Defilements, and Internal Misbeliefs and Unbelief**
- **Christ Physically Died on Our Behalf – So We Don't Have to Physically Die.**
His Blood Cleanses and Removes Our Shame – So we Can Confess & Own.
His Body was Broken and Died – So Our Hardness and Denial Can be Broken.
So We Can See the Truth in Our Old Self - In God's Grace, Love and Forgiveness.
- **We Learn to Walk With God Through Christ in the Discipline of the Lord**

It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons [daughter]. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. **Hebrews 12:7-11**

Work Out and Grow Up into a Beatitude Christian

- **Trained in the Discipline of the Lord – What it Means.**

Exposes our Carnal Motives – Thoughts and Intentions of the Heart

We Learn to Rest in Letting God Show Us and Then Change Us:

Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience. For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Hebrews 4:11-13

We Learn to Work With the Lord to Put Off the Old and Put On the New:

Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. But that is not the way you learned Christ!— assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness. Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil. **Ephesians 4:17-27**

Work Out and Grow Up into a Beatitude Christian

- **We Work With Our Heavenly Father to Grow Up into the Fulness of Christ**

”building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love. **Ephesians 4:12-16** So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. **1 Peter 2:1-3**

- **Christ, His Teachings and Sound Doctrine in Scripture is Our Standard**

We Must Be Sensitive to the True Peace and Love of the Lord’s Presence.

We must Compare our Feelings, Thoughts, Attitudes, and Moods to Christ.

- **Conflict – Should Lead Us to Examine Heart and Personal Spirit:**

Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. **James 4:8** Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God. **2**

Corinthians 7:1 **Next Lesson: Inner Transformation by the Hand of God**