

DTS 2022: Session 7

Why DTS...



Qualifying His Disciples!

- Because Jesus has called true disciples to high standards of life and love for others!
 - Like Him! “Greater love has no man than this, that he lays down his life for his friends! You are My friends if you do what I command” **John 15.13,14**
- The world is suffering for a lack of them!

Three Stages of Biblical Discipleship

- L1: Bearing up under His rules and Rulership! ▲
- L2: Bearing the Fruit of His Spirit! ■
- L3: Bearing His image! ▼
 - Uncovering, revealing the inner wo/man
 - “The image is already complete within, before I start my work. It’s all there, I just have to chip away the superfluous material.” — Michelangelo (paraphrased)

1 Timothy 3.1

- **v1:** “If anyone *wants to be an overseer* (leader) in the church, it’s a good work!
 - First the desire: a longing for, a heart set on, stretching towards, a valuable/virtuous work!
- **v2:** An overseer must then be... (pre-qualifications begin...)
 - *Then* the prequalification's... (not vice versa)
- Lots of rules from the Ruler, all meant for a heart change, not a check mark!

“We don’t need to have all the qualifications in place to be considered true disciples... but people who truly want to be *‘true’* leaders will have them in sight...”



MC: Lots of Rules!

- **Genesis 30.32-43** Jacob's ringstraked, speckled and spotted herds!
 - “Jacob, however, took fresh branches of poplar, almond, and plane trees, and peeled the bark, exposing the white inner wood of the branches. Then he set the peeled branches in the watering troughs in front of the flocks coming in to drink. So when the flocks were in heat and came to

MC: Lots of Rules!

- **Genesis 30.32-43** Jacob's ringstraked, speckled and spotted herds!
 - drink, they mated in front of the branches. And they bore young that were streaked or speckled or spotted... Thus Jacob became exceedingly prosperous.
- “You will reproduce what is set before you!”



L2

L2: The Leaders Fruit!

- Leaders must bear the fruit of the Spirit!
 - “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience (makrothumia: long endurance with people v. hupomone: patience with ‘things’), kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility, and self control... Against such things there is no law!” **Galatians 5.22,23**

L2: The Leaders Fruit!

- Leaders must bear the fruit of the Spirit!
 - Jesus said that His disciples would “glorify God by bearing much fruit!” **John 15.8**
 - “But now you have been set free from sin, *and have become slaves to God*, the fruit you reap leads to holiness, and the outcome is eternal life!” **Romans 6.22**

L2: The Leaders Fruit!

- Leaders must bear the fruit of the Spirit!
 - “Blessed is the man whose delight is in the law of the Lord. And in His law he meditates day and night. He will be like a tree planted by rivers of living water that brings forth fruit in its season!” **Psalm 1.2,3**
 - “Every tree is known by its fruit, whether it is good or bad!” **Matthew 7.16-20**

L2: The Leaders Fruit!

- Leaders must bear the fruit of the Spirit!
 - “I am the True Vine, and My Father is the Gardener. You are the branches. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away, and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit!” **John 15.2**
 - Fruitfulness seems to be pretty important to God!

**“We don’t need to have all
the fruit before we can be
considered mature leaders...
but mature leaders have
them all in sight!”**

L2: The Leaders Fruit!

- **Galatians 5:22-23 Produce!**
- **Love: agape: the Love of God!**
- **Joy: chara: calm delight!**
- **Peace: eirene: the peace of prosperity/power**
- **Longsuffering: makrothumia: long term forbearance with people! (vs. hupomone: patience with things)**

L2: The Leaders Fruit!

- **Galatians 5:22-23 Produce!**
- **Gentleness: moral excellence**
- **Goodness: virtue/beneficence**
- **Faith: full persuasion of moral conviction**
- **Meekness: humility of strength**
- **Temperance: self control: abstinence
continence: control over what's
discharged**

L2: The Leaders Fruit!

- **Ephesians 5:9 Produce!**
- “For the fruit of the Spirit is in all *goodness* (benevolence, generosity of spirit) and *righteousness* (equity of character, giving to men and God their due) and *truth* (doctrine professed and accomplished)...”

L2: The Leaders Fruit!

- Jesus! **Produce!**
- Assurance, attractiveness, benevolence, fearlessness, faithfulness, forgiveness, gentleness, patience, potence, violence, willingness, wisdom, zeal...

L2: The Leaders Fruit!

- Although it is all Holy Spirit fruit, it is the result of our partnership with Him!
 - Abiding in the Vine is not passive...
 - And neither is true leadership!
 - Leaders cooperate with the leading and authority of the Holy Spirit!
 - We cannot lead with the mentality that “I am a leader, and if God wants fruit it will grow...”

**Try with all our might;
intentions, will, energy,
education... we cannot produce
true spiritual fruit by
human effort!**

**We cannot force fruit and
should not fake it! But thank
God, He has given us ways to
plan for it, prepare for it,
encourage it and cultivate it!**

Any concept of spiritual leadership that does not include the fruit of the Spirit as a developmental factor, is a false concept!



L3

This is the part of Leadership called “Process!”

L3: The Process!

- **Galatians 5/Ephesians 5 (compendium)**
- “crucify the flesh...walk by the Spirit... discern what is well-pleasing to the Lord... have no fellowship with unfruitful darkness... reprove unfruitful works... collect your faculties, get up from among the dead, go get light...

L3: The Process!

- **Ephesians 5/Colossians 3 (comp)**
- “walk w/diligence and wisdom, redeem the time, be wise, understand the will of God, be filling up w/the Spirit, be speaking up to others, give thanks to God, submit yourself to others, set your heart on the highest things, put to death impure things, don't lie...

L3: The Process!

- **Colossians 3**
- “put off the bad stuff, put on the good stuff, above all else put on love, let the peace of God rule in your hearts, be thankful, let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teach and correct each other, sing with grace in your heart, do whatever you do in a way you can sign the Lord’s name to it!”

**True Leadership is submitting
to His rule(s), producing fruit
and maintaining process...**

**True Leaders submit to His
rule(s), love Him and keep
His word(s), glorify God with
much fruit and continue in
transformation!**

“The Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

To Succeed in Leadership We Must...

- be willing to embrace the disciplines of spiritual service!
- bear the Fruit of the Spirit!
- live the crucified life!
- be teachable teachers, rather than stubborn students! **Hebrews 5:12ff**

Important Issues of Spiritual Service...

- “We must be able to hold fast to the faithful word... enabled by sound doctrine to defeat senseless and unsubdued deceivers... who are subverters of truth!” **Titus 1:9ff**

Important Issues of Spiritual Service...

- “We must be able to speak the things that are suitable and proper, fit and right for healthy, life-giving, uncorrupted instruction!”

Important Issues of Spiritual Service...

- “We must be able, in all things, to present and offer ourselves as models of beautiful and virtuous acts and works...”

Important Issues of Spiritual Service...

- **“We must be submitting to the order and authority that God has given us, submitting to and obeying them, letting ourselves be adjusted, made ready and fit for every good act and labor! Not speaking ill of any man... extending ourselves in humility to all!”**

The Final Issue of Spiritual Leadership!



