

DTS 2022: Session 9

Review!

- **Qualifying Disciples/Leaders!**
 - L1: Lots of qualifications for leaders...
 - To change hearts, not check boxes!
 - MC: Jacob's herds: "You reproduce what is set before you!"
 - L2: Leaders must bear fruit!
 - Not forced, nor faked!
 - L3: Leaders always in process! We never 'arrive!' –Paul to the Philippians

Philippians 3.4-8

- “If anyone thinks he has grounds for confidence in [reliance on] the flesh, I have more ... but whatever was counted as gain [financial or otherwise] to me I count as loss for the sake of Christ. More than that, I count all things as loss compared to the surpassing excellence of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may

Philippians 3.9-12

- “gain Christ and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness from the law [lists, performance, outward appearance], but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God on the basis of faith .. *Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Jesus took hold of me!* Brothers, I do not

Philippians 3.13-15

- “consider myself to taken hold of it. But one thing I do: *Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize of God’s heavenly calling in Christ Jesus.* All of us who are mature should embrace this point of view!

Elements...

- Do we count the issues of the “pride of life” a loss for the gain of knowing Jesus [in the *power of His resurrection* and the *fellowship of His sufferings*, being *conformed to Him in His death*, so somehow, *to attain the resurrection from the dead*?
 - Leaders want to know: What are the important elements/end game of my life?

Elements...

- Have you reckoned that earthly gains, that do not transfer, are loss anyway?
- What wrappers, broken boxes, and bottles are 'rubbish' strewn around you?
- Pref/Actual: inward righteousness which transfigures us v. outward that fades?
- "I have not obtained; never arrive; never perfect..." always in process!

Elements...

- What won't you "forget" that keeps reaching out and pulling you back?
- What are you pressing toward, straining for, in this life?
- Mature followers, leaders, all agree on these points...
- *And if not, are you willing to hear from the Lord on the issues?*

MC Leaders: Forget About It!

- While waiting on the Holy Spirit to speak to us...
 - Do as much good as you can... to as many people as you can... and encourage others to join you!
 - “Just keep your head down, ears back...”
 - And let the Lord be the judge...
 - *Who wants to speak to us if we are killing time!*

Took a walk with James...

- Consider [I] it pure joy when you encounter trials of many kinds... builds up your endurance...
- Allow [I] perseverance to finish its work [don't strive to cut the process short] so that you may be mature and complete...
- Now, if any of you lacks wisdom ask [I] God who generously gives it...

Took a walk with James...

- Ask [I] Him in faith, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind...
- That man should not expect [I] to receive anything from the Lord...
- The brother in humble circumstances should exult [I] in his high position of access to God's and His wisdom...

Took a walk with James...

- When tempted, [let's keep it straight], no one should say [I], "God is tempting me..."
- Do not be deceived [I] [let's keep it straight and not walk in superstitious errors] my beloved brothers...
- My beloved brothers, understand this [I]: everyone should be [I] quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger.

Took a walk with James...

- Get rid of all moral filth and every expression of evil, and humbly receive [I] the word planted in you...
- Be [I] doers of the Word, and not hearers only. Otherwise you are deceiving yourselves...

Why do we qualify Leaders?



Elements...

- People always will be... people...
 - “Out of ideas” to deal with them only tells us operating on *your* resources!
 - “We all need a break from you...” and what about when the break is over?
 - We can cut them off...
 - We can quote ‘meaningless’ scriptures to them...

Elements...

- Or hear them, “I want to know there’s a reason for things... I used to be certain, but now I’m not so sure...”
 - “I want you to tell me that God has a plan for me, a plan for all of us!”
 - “I can’t”
 - *All w/the Cross in the background...*
 - *Maybe never seeing them again...*
 - *Left staring at the floor!*



MC: Impolitical David

- Impolitical: unwise approach to sensitive issues!
- **2Samuel 18.33** “And the King was very moved and locked himself in the room above the gate. He wept bitterly saying, “Oh my son Absalom. My son. My son Absalom. Would to God that I had died in your place. Oh Absalom, my son. My son.”

Absalom: David's 3rd Son

- What he lacks in character he makes up for in looks!
 - He is the “Thor” of his time
 - “No blemish in him” **2Sam 14.25**
- He is the idol of his father
 - Who failed to discipline him for his acts of violence/treachery

Absalom: David's 3rd Son

- ...is a murderer **13.29**
- ...is a deceiver **15.2,3**
- ...conspired to take away his father's kingdom **15.13**
- ...is a self absorbed egotist
- ...was godless
- ...was snared by his own good looks (literally and figuratively), and killed!

MC: Impolitical David

- **19.1-3** “And it was told to Joab how David wept for his son Absalom. And the victory that day was turned into mourning for the people because of the way David was grieving for his son. And the people came back to the city by stealth, as people ashamed when they run...”

MC: Impolitical David

- **19.4-5** “But the king covered his face and kept on crying out with a loud voice, “My son Absalom, oh Absalom my son, my son.” And Joab came in and said, “you have shamed the faces of your soldiers who have saved your life, the lives of your sons and daughters and wives...””

MC: Impolitical David

- **19.6** “in that you love your enemies and hate your friends. You have made it plain this day that we are nothing in your sight and if Absalom had lived and we all had died then you would have been happy...”

MC: Impolitical David

- **19.7** “get up right now and speak to the heart of your servants for I swear by the Lord that if you don’t there won’t be one person left here tonight and that would be worse than anything you have ever faced...”

MC: Impolitical David

- **19.8** “Then David got up and sat in the gate making himself available to all the people. And when they heard he was there they came to him even though they had all gone off to their own places.”

Impolitical David...

- Overcome with grief he locks himself away
 - Which was opposite of his faithful response to the death of his other child!
12.22,23
- Was suffering guilt for his over-fondness, lousy modeling, lax discipline...

Impolitical David...

- **Was cutting off his effective leadership by his own self-indulgence!**
 - Natural to be sad at loss
 - Natural to think about disappointed hope/future
 - Natural to grieve worthless life
 - Natural to have self doubts

Impolitical David...

- *Ill-considered* to not trust God with reality of anyone's future; beginning with your own family members!
- *Ill-advised* to be *consumed* by "loss" of anything/anyone!
- *Not-supernatural* to distrust God's oversight of the life and death of any human being!

Mini-Concept

- *People lifted to leadership can't live for themselves!*
 - Time, place and appropriate 'helper' for every emotion/experience...
 - Not every emotion/experience for any or every place! (esp. social media posts)
 - "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything ... make your requests known to God..." **Philippians 4.6**

Mini-Concept

- *People lifted to leadership can't live for themselves!*
 - Time, place and appropriate 'helper' for every emotion/experience...
 - Not every emotion/experience for any or every place! (esp. social media posts)
- *We live for other people!*
- *Welcome to Jesus world!*



Paul's Invitations to Disciples of Christ!

**Or, "Welcome to experiences
that challenge and define
your discipleship!"**

2Corinthians 1:8

- For we do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, of the *trouble which came to us on our assignment... that we were burdened beyond measure... above strength... so that we despaired even of life.*

2Corinthians 1:9

- *Yes, we had the sentence of death in ourselves, so that we should not trust in ourselves but in God who raises the dead...*

2Corinthians 1:10,11

- Who delivered us from so great a death, and does deliver us; *in whom we trust that He will still deliver us*, you also helping together in prayer for us...

2Corinthians 4:1ff

- Fainting not
- Renounced shame
- Honest w/Word
- Not self focused
- Hearts shining
- Troubled but not distressed
- Questions but moving forward
- Persecuted not forsaken
- Cast down not destroyed
- Bearing death
- Showing life
- Spirit of faith
- Fainting not
- Looking at unseen

2Corinthians 6:1ff

- Co-energized
- Not an offense
- “Beyond breaking”
- Under pressure
- In need
- In narrow places
- W/wounds
- In confusion
- With hard work
- Sleeplessness
- Vol./non fastings
- By pureness
- By knowledge
- By longsuffering
- By moral excell’ce
- By Holy Ghost

2Corinthians 6:1ff

- Sincere love
- Word of Truth
- Weapons bared
- When Honored
- When not
- When defamed
- When accepted
- When criticized
- Anonymously
- As dying
- As chastened
- As sorrowful
- As poor
- As having nothing
- Equally yoked
- And separated!

2Corinthians 11:23ff

- Heavy labor
- Beaten
- Imprisoned
- Near death
- Adrift/in the deep
- Without a place
- Always in danger
- Friendless
- Betrayed
- Tired and pained
- Sleepless
- Hungry and thirsty
- Cold and unclothed
- Care of others
- Glorifying in my infirmities!

2Corinthians 13:5

- “So, *examine yourselves... rather than others...* to see if you are walking in real faith! *Prove your own-“self.”*”

Galatians 6:14ff

- God forbid that I should boast *except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ... by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.* For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, *but a new creation.*

Galatians 6:14ff

- *And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God. From now on let no one trouble me, for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus.*

