

Discipleship Tip

"Nothing organic continues to grow forever. God continues growth by planting new seeds. As leaders we must figure out ways to plant new seeds." - Dan Reiland.

I'd say connect groups are new seeds!

Connect Group Notes

11 Apr 2010

Ps Gordon Moore

Christ In You

Acts 2:36 (NKJV). "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."

God is both Lord and Christ! As Christ he is our Saviour. He died on the Cross for us. He rose from the dead for us. He is seated in the heavenly places for us. He sent His Spirit to fill us. He has saved us from our sin.

But He has also saved us to His Lordship. (**Matt 1:21** and **Gal 1:14**).

We can be overly focused on Christ's death and sometimes sentimental about The Passion. We are Good Friday Christians instead of Resurrection Sunday Christians.

The Cross of Christ is a doorway, the entrance into a whole new life in Christ. When Jesus died on a cross, forgiveness of sins was automatically available to you. When you repent from sin, you are automatically saved. But making Him Lord is manual. Only we can make Him Lord. You can't add to your salvation, but you can add to your faith and increase His Lordship in your life.

Typical of this role or function of saviour are the stories of Moses and the deliverance of Israel through the Red Sea. It was all done for the Israelites through Moses. By his faith, by lifting his rod to part the Red Sea. The Israelites received their deliverance and salvation. They received manna from heaven. Led by fire by night and a cloud by day. It was all done for them. It came automatically.

Typical of the role or function of Lord, is the story of Joshua and the Israelites crossing the Jordan to the Promised Land. Joshua did not do it for them. He moved towards the back of the people as they reached the river. The priests had to embrace faith and step into the waters. It wasn't done for them, it was done because of them. It was manual.

When Christ is Lord, He lives in you and ...

- You will make your own way
- You will find your own spiritual food
- You will pass through the challenges of life by faith

When you embrace the authority of Christ ...

- You become Christ centred
- You are not restricted but empowered
- You are not in God's way, but make a way for God and His Kingdom

TALK ABOUT

- Is becoming complete in Christ automatic or manual for the believer?
- Can you identify with the shift that takes place in your mind and understanding when you focus on Christ's death as a beginning and not an end?

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