

Called and Ordained

Troubling The Darkness - Week 7 (8-17-22)

Ordain - To establish or order by appointment, decree, or law: enact.

2 Peter 1:2-10

I. The Call

A. What is my calling?

1. Matt. 22:34-40

- a) Love God with all of your being, and love your neighbor as your self.
 - (1) When we focus on accomplishing these two things, all the details will come out.
 - (a) We will be listening to the Holy Spirit and be led by Him. The fruit of the Spirit will be manifested
- b) Gen. 1:28 - "...be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion..."
 - (1) Replenish = fill , Subdue = conquer and bring into subjection

2. John 15:16

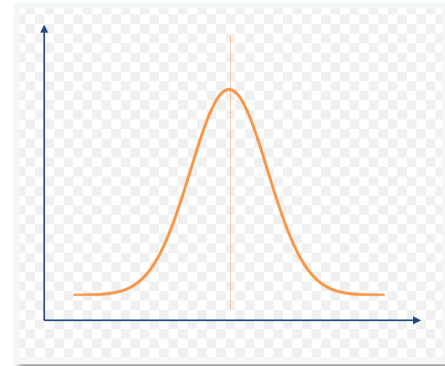
- a) With the calling comes the power to achieve it!
 - (1) We have been called to bear lasting fruit
 - (2) An officer given authority as well as the power to enforce.
 - (3) The disciples were given authority along with the power to do what Jesus asked them to do even though they did not completely understand it all. - Luke 10:17

II. Growing in Fruitfulness

A. The Bell Curve

1. The dead parakeet was a warning signal

- a) The "dead parakeet" to a christian life is the loss of vision for bearing fruit - DL
- b) Proverbs 29:18 - "Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he."
 - (1) Vision - hazon = vision; word of revelation - divine communication
 - (2) Perish - Yippara = Let free; out of control, allow to run wild; leave unattended
 - (a) confusion, chaos, disorder, no standards, no self-control, unpruned, inefficient.



B. Why do we become unfruitful?

1. Discouraged by personal infirmities

- a) Why would God choose me? - He knows what He put inside of you!
- b) 2 Corin. 3:18
 - (1) He will take us from glory to glory, we just have to keep our gaze on Him.

- (a) Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind
 - (b) Abiding in the vine - John 15
- c) Romans 8:5-6
 - (1) its the fruit of the Spirit, not the fruit of self! - Galatians 5:16-26
- 2. Discouraged by circumstances
 - a) Elijah - 1 Kings 19:9-18
 - (1) by himself put to shame hundreds of prophets of baal and the grove in front of all of Israel, but became discouraged that he was the only prophet of God left.
 - b) Joseph - Gen. 37-50
 - (1) Didn't wait for life to be going just right to be focused on growing and producing fruit in God.
 - (a) Even in extreme and harsh conditions we can still be bearing fruit.
 - i) Jeremiah 17:7-8
 - (2) unexpected outcomes did not derail his faith.
 - (a) Peter denied Jesus
- 3. Failure to see the need to bear fruit
 - a) If God's grace has me covered, then why do I need to focus on bearing fruit?
 - b) Grace is not an excuse to do what ever we want. Grace empowers us to move forward by faith - Eph. 2:7-8
 - (1) James 2:17-20
 - (2) "Dead faith is demonic." - DL
 - (a) If your faith does not motivate you into action, you're in trouble.

"...his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue." 2 Peter 1:3