

## **The Results of Dedication**

Outline – September 15, 2024

1 Samuel 16:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20;

1 Corinthians 2:12-16, 3:1-3

### **A Testimony That Many Of Us Share**

#### **I. When we encountered Jesus everything changed**

- A. God took us in a direction we never thought we would go
- B. I never thought this is where I would be
- C. Nicodemus and the rebirth  
John 3:3
- D. Jesus introduced him to a life he never fully understood until he met Jesus
- E. Jesus showed him seven things
  - 1. He is the Messiah
  - 2. Nicodemus is not saved by the rules
  - 3. That rebirth is believing in Him
  - 4. That God made a way to give grace
  - 5. Nicodemus can have purpose in life
  - 6. Can have Eternal life
  - 7. Can know God as his Heavenly Father

#### **II. The Apostle Paul created three categories of people as they relate to God**

- A. The natural person - man
  - 1. Alive physically - dead spiritually
    - a. A computer with no battery
  - 2. No activation for the things of God
  - 3. No appreciation for the things of God

- 4. Spiritual principles and promises are foolishness

- 5. No spiritual appropriation

- a. Eyes but cannot see

- b. Ears but cannot hear

- B. The other end - The spiritual person

- 1. Born of the Spirit

- 2. Live by the Spirit

- 3. Learn from the Spirit of God via the Word of God

- 4. Liberated through the Spirit

- C. The most miserable - The carnal Christian

- 1. Saved but shallow

- a. Restricted development

- b. Restricted in spiritual diet

- c. Repeatedly divided

- d. Elvis was an example

#### **III. How does a person reach their spiritual potential?**

- A. Recognize these two realities

- 1. Your birth is proof God wanted your potential for His glory

- 2. A life that ends never using the talents, chasing the dreams, having a vision is a tragedy

- 3. The story of David

- B. Ask three questions

- 1. What do you focus on?

- 2. What will I do with the knowledge I have?

- 3. What will my decision mean for me and others?

4. David's story

**IV. What does Jesus want from us?**

A. To make disciples

1. Through evangelism

a. Giving good news

b. Helping you understand the seriousness of the situation

c. Dead people made alive

2. Creating community

a. Connecting people

b. Baptism - symbol of connection

3. Learning more about Messiah

4. Serving Him by serving others

5. Worshiping Him

a. As a lifestyle

**V. Following Jesus & making disciples requires dedication**

A. Dedication requires five things

1. A love that comes from above to give your best

2. A hunger to fulfill your potential

a. Story of Michael Jordan

3. It's taking knowledge and applying it until you see results

4. It's changing patterns of behavior

5. It's understanding it's emotionally connecting - It's repeating it until it becomes a part of your life

**VI. The Results of dedication**

A. Creates spiritual health

B. Changes your state of mind

1. You can accomplish

2. You can improve

3. You do see results

C. Creates a new story

1. Overcomer

2. Victorious

D. Changes your strategy

E. Changes your life and the lives of others

**Dedication...**

**A Little Thing**

**That Changes**

**Everything**