D.I.N.E. with Christ: Equip

Wylie United Methodist Church Pastor Jeff Hatcher – January 30, 2011

Matt 28:18-20

18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and <u>teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you</u>. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

An Equipped Christian...

1. IS SPIRITUALLY MATURE

--- Spiritual Maturity ---

John Wesley called this... Sanctifying Grace

- Prevenient Grace (God passionately pursuing us)
- <u>Justifying Grace</u> (To be made in <u>right</u> standing before God through Christ) *This is not the end but rather the beginning*
- <u>Sanctifying Grace</u> (The Holy Spirit <u>perfecting</u> us "equipping us")

1 Cor 13:11-12

11 When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me.

Heb 5:11-13

11 We have much to say about this, but it is hard to explain because <u>you are slow to learn</u>. 12 In fact, though by this time

you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! 13 Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness.

An Equipped Christian...

2. HELPS OTHERS BECOME MATURE

Eph 4:1,11-13

1 As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to <u>live a life</u> worthy of the calling you have received.

11 It was he [Christ] who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, 12 to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up 13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

An Equipped Christian...

3. IS PREPARED FOR THE TRIALS OF LIFE

Heb 5:14

14 But <u>solid food is for the mature</u>, who <u>by constant use have trained themselves</u> to distinguish good from evil.

Eph 4:14-15

14 Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. 15 Instead, speaking the truth in love,

we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ.

<u>James 1:2-4</u>

2 Consider it <u>pure joy</u>, my brothers, <u>whenever you face trials</u> of many kinds, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith <u>develops perseverance</u>. 4 Perseverance must finish its work <u>so that you may be mature and complete</u>, not lacking anything.

- ✓ ARE YOU AN EQUIPPED CHRISTIAN?
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