

The Godly Man as Christ's Representative *Helping Others*

Have you ever had the privilege of leading someone in accepting Christ as personal Savior? Where is that one today? What help did you give? Is that one a growing Christian today - one who is walking with Christ? Or did he/she flounder and never seem to grow to maturity?

Even if a person had a healthy spiritual birth, if there was no personal help given, no loving parental care and training, there is a strong possibility they are not walking with Christ today and maturing as a Christian. Many of us did not have that kind of help, and even though we perhaps had a strong desire to grow, it was slow-going and we "fell down" many times because we had no one to encourage and teach us how to feed ourselves, how to walk, what to eat spiritually, how to grow, etc.

Teacher, pray that class members will be motivated through this lesson to follow up on anyone for whom they should now, or in the future, be responsible. Paul expressed what should be the compelling motivation of each Christian in this way, *"So naturally, we proclaim Christ! We warn everyone we meet, and we teach everyone we can, all that we know about him, so that, if possible, we may bring every man up to his full maturity in Christ. This is what I am working at all the time, with all the strength that God gives me."* (Colossians 1:28,29 (Phillips))

A. Object Of The Lesson

1. To teach the group the facts of follow-up.
2. To give them a hunger and desire to do it.
3. To get them involved in doing it.

B. Discussion Questions

1. What did you learn regarding follow-up from I Thessalonians? (#1 page 52)
2. What is the goal of follow-up? (Colossians 1: 28,29)
3. What do you think is the order of priorities in follow-up? (#4 page 53)
4. What attitudes will those who are growing in maturity possess? (Philippians 3:12-15)
5. Paul was Timothy's spiritual leader. What qualities were present in Timothy's life? (Acts 16:1-4)
6. What was the content of Paul's training for Timothy? (II Timothy 3:10, Acts 20:4, II Timothy 1:3, I Corinthians 4:17, I Thessalonians 3:2)
7. What relationship did Paul and Timothy have? (I Timothy 1: 2,18, II Timothy 2:1)
8. In the light of II Timothy 2:2 who is a faithful man?
9. What training principle do you find in Mark 3:13-15? ("With Him")
10. If you have been doing follow-up, which one of the priorities listed under #4 page 53 is the weakest in your own life, or is one in which you fail most?
11. What is your own greatest hindrance to effective follow-up?
12. Did you do the assignment at the end of your lesson? If you have gotten in touch with someone, share his response.

C. Suggestions For Conclusion

1. Review Colossians 1:28,29 in Phillips (given in the introduction to this lesson). Ask: Is this true of your life? If not, what step do you feel God would have you take in this regard?
2. Spend time in prayer. Ask the men to pray for a person they are now helping, or for one they should be helping. If they feel they have no one to help, ask them to pray that God will give them someone to follow-up.

D. Additional Scriptures

I John 5:11,12; John 5:24; I John 5:13; Hebrews 13:5b; Isaiah 50:4; Psalm 119:9-11; Acts 20:32.

E. Possible Projects

1. Take each need listed in #4 and think through a short 3 minute exhortation or explanation you could use to encourage someone in this area. Write these down thoroughly and be prepared to share them, for example
 - a. Objective of follow-up - I Timothy 1:5 (Phillips)
 - b. Personal example - Philippians 2:5-8
 - c. Prayer - Luke 18:1
 - d. Godly teaching - Colossians 2:8-10
2. Listen to the audio “Born to Reproduce” this week.
3. Tell about the last person you followed-up. Tell what you did, what the results were, etc.
4. Contact one person you feel responsible for or who you have tried to help and encourage in one of the areas listed in #4.

F.. Extra Helps

BSU Audio 403 - Producing Reproducers, by Dawson Trotman
AA094 - Born to Reproduce, by Dawson Trotman

(Teacher, these two audios and accompanying study guides by Dawson Trotman are the very finest things we can suggest for your own preparation for teaching this lesson)