

Philosophy of Life & Ministry

(continued)

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III. To Glorify God

A. The purpose for which we were created.

Isaiah 43:7 (KJV): “Even everyone that is called by My name for I have created him for My glory, I have formed him, yea, I have made him.”

Revelation 4:11 (KJV): “Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power, for thou hast created all things and for Thy pleasure they are and were created.”

B. How do we glorify God?

1. By praising Him.

Psalms 50:23 (KJV): “Whoso offereth praise glorifieth Me; and to him that ordereth his conversation aright will I show the salvation of God.”

2. By our actions.

I Corinthians 10:31 (KJV): “Whether, therefore, ye eat, or drink, or whatever ye do, do all to the glory of God.”

John 11:4 (KJV): “When Jesus heard that, He said, This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified by it.”

3. By bearing fruit.

John 15:8 (KJV): “In this is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be My disciples.”

4. By believing God.

Romans 4:20 (RSV): “No distrust made him waiver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith, as he gave glory to God.”

5. By declaring Christ Lord of our lives.

Philippians 2:11 (KJV). “And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father.”

6. By what we are.

Ephesians 1:12 (KJV): “That we should be to the praise of His glory, who first trusted in Christ.”

IV. To be used of Him.

A. Only God produces spiritual results.

Psalms 127:1 (KJV): “Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it; except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.”

John 15:5 (KJV): “I am the vine, ye are the branches. He that abideth in Me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit; for without Me ye can do nothing.”

John 6:63 (KJV): “It is the Spirit that quickeneth, the flesh profiteth nothing.”

I Corinthians 10:12 (Letters to Street Christians): “We don’t have to be concerned about how great we look in men’s eyes. The Father has a plan for each one of us in building up His family. He gives us the work to do and He’s the One that does it.”

B. Availability.

Haggai 2:19 (KJV): “Is the seed yet in the barn?”

C. We must be fit to be used.

II Timothy 2:19-21 (KJV): “Nevertheless, the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are His; and, let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity. But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honor, and some to dishonor. If a man, therefore, purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honor, sanctified, and meet for the master’s use, and prepared unto every good work.”

D. We must be equipped.

II Timothy 3:17 (Phillips): “The scriptures are the comprehensive equipment of the man of God, and fit him fully for all branches of his work.”

E. We must have “stickability”.

What we ARE is more important than what we DO. God is more interested in making us something, than He is in simply teaching us something.

Romans 8:29 (KJV): “For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.”

Ephesians 4:13 (KJV): “Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.”

John 12:32 (KJV): “And I, if I be lifted up from the earth will draw all men unto Me.”

The measure of spiritual maturity is to be found in Galatians 5:22, 23 (KJV) – “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance; against such there is no law.”

V. To raise up.

Matthew 9:36-38 (KJV): “But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Then saith He unto His disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few. Pray ye, therefore, the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth laborers into His harvest.”

Isaiah 58:12 (KJV): “And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places. Thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations and thou shalt be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of paths to dwell in.”

II Timothy 2:2 (KJV): “And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.”

II Samuel 23:27 (KJV): “Zelak, the Ammonite, Naharai, the Beerothite, armor bearer to Joab, the son of Zeruiah.”

Psalm 142:4 (KJV): “I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me. Refuge failed me; no man cared for my soul.”

Galatians 6:7 (KJV): “Be not deceived, God is not mocked, for whatever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.”

Philippians 4:9 (KJV): “Those things which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do, and the God of peace shall be with you.”

A. Raising up men involves at least three aspects:

1. Teaching - to impart facts
2. Training - imparts skills in both the Word of God and ministry.
3. Building - to impart character.

Revelation 14: 13 (KJV): “And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth. Yea, saith the spirit, that they may rest from their labors and their works do follow them.”

VI. Qualified laborers

A. A qualified laborer has at least three attributes:

1. Knowing what to do.

John 6:25-29 (KJV): “And when they had found him on the other side of the sea, they said unto Him, Rabbi, when camest thou here? Jesus answered them, and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek Me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled. Labor not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you, for Him hath God the Father sealed. Then said they unto Him, What shall we do, that we might work the works of God? Jesus answered, and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on Him Whom He hath sent.”

Oliver Cromwell said; . “No one has gone so far as the man who doesn't know where he is going.”

2. Knowing how to do it.
3. Committed to the task.

VII. In significant numbers.

“A little one shall become a thousand, and a small one a strong nation: I the LORD will hasten it in his time.” Isaiah 60:22

VIII. As fast as possible.

Why?

A. The tremendous need.

B. The shortness of our own lives.

Ephesians 5: 15-16 (Phillips): “Live life then with a due sense of responsibility, not as men who do not know the meaning of life but as those who do. Make the best use of your time, despite all the evils of these days.”

C. There is a time element in maturity.

Luke 7:30 (Williams): “But the Pharisees and experts in the law thwarted God’s purpose for themselves by refusing to be baptized by him.”

IX. To Help Fulfill the Great Commission.

Matthew 28:18-20 (RSV): “And Jesus came and said unto them - All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Go, therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you, and lo, I am with you always, even to the close of the age.”

(Mark 16:14, 15; Luke 24:44-49; John 20:19-23; Acts 1:8)

Two parts to the Great Commission:

A. Winning men.

Luke 19: 10 (KJV): “For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.”

B. Making disciples of men

“To Know, love, and glorify God and to be used of Him to raise up qualified laborers in significant numbers as fast as possible to help fulfill the Great Commission.”