

How to Make An Impact - Part 4

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Introduction.

Winston Churchill and Lady Astor, the first woman in Parliament, had an adversarial relationship, not marked by grace. We have enjoyed your fellowship and we thank God for the privilege to minister to you. Chad Walsh *Early Christians of the Twenty-first Century* said Christians today have divorced faith from the intellect and will, so Satan must have called off the need of converting a person to agnosticism, since its easier to vaccinate a person with a mild case of Christianity than to infect him with the real disease.

A. Paul was one infected with the real disease. (Titus 3)

1. Titus is about making a permanent impact in a pagan culture.
2. Three parts.
 - a. Home.
 - b. Church.
 - c. World.
2. Quality leadership focused on character is needed to have this impact.
 - a. Informational leaning.
 - b. Transformational, learning.
3. We need a radical, supernatural lifestyle.
4. Knowledge must lead to godliness that is eager to do what is good
 - a. Verses 1; be ready to do what is good.
 - b. Verse 8; be careful to devote self to doing good.
 - c. Verse 14; learn to do what is good.
5. Three aspects to lifestyle.
 - a. Verses 1-2 talks about obligation.
 - b. Verses 3-7 talks about motivation.
 - c. Verses 8-11 talks about the Christian reaction.

B. We are going to deal with verses 3-7 in the context of reminding people about good.

1. We tend to forget what we ought to remember and remember what we ought to forget.
2. This is especially important as we grow older.
3. We need to stir up our minds by truth.

C. We are resistant to change.

1. This is also important as we grow older.
2. We endure the service of Christ.

D. Six things.

1. Subject to ruling authorities.
2. Obedience.
3. Doing good.
4. Slander no one.
5. Be peaceful and considerate.
6. Humility to all men.
 - a. These are not generalizations.
 - b. They are specific.
 - c. Generalities are a refuge for a weak mind.
 - d. If one is maturing in the spiritual realm there should be growth.

I. How do we get motivated?

A. This is the greatest unresolved problem in education and Christianity today.

1. Paul answers this question in two ways. (Titus 3:3-7)
 - a. By remembering who you were before coming to faith. (Titus 3:3)
 1. Seven characteristics of the unregenerate.
 - i. We were foolish and wicked. (1 Corinthians 6:9)
 - ii. We were disobedient.
 - a. These first two deal with relation with God.

- b. When our relation with God is wrong all is wrong.
 - iii. We were deceived.
 - iv. We were enslaved to lusts.
 - a. God cleanses us from all sin.
 - b. He is patient with us because we are in process.
 - c. The next three deal with our relationship with others.
 - v. We were enslaved to pleasures.
 - vi. We were envious.
 - vii. We were hateful.
 - 2. If you have forgotten the hold from which you're been delivered you won't be motivated to serve Christ.
 - 3. I take deliberate steps to get in touch with a lost world so I sometimes drive through the streets where I grew up and remind myself of what I was saved out of.
- b. By looking within to find out what God is in the process of doing in my life.
- 1. God saved us not based on our righteous deeds but by his own grace.
 - 2. He saved us by the washing of rebirth.
 - 3. He renewed us by his Spirit.
 - 4. We thus become heirs of eternal life.
 - 5. We are not what we were but we are not yet what God is making us.
 - 6. What evidence is there in your life that the supernatural is working in you?
 - i. We do not know how to relate to new Christians.
 - ii. Baby Christians make messes.
 - iii. The greatest need in the church is to remember what we were like before Christ came in to us and to remember that we are in progress.
 - iv. Is what you preach working in your marriage?

v. A woman wrote out her goals for the next ten years the night she died.

vi. Are you convinced that you are being renewed day by day?

7. Whatever you do, do all in the name of Jesus. (Colossians 3:17)

8. Whatever you do, do it heartily as unto the Lord. (Colossians 3:23)

9. A steward impressed me with her selfless service and when I complimented her she told me she works for Jesus Christ.

B. Those who live in the marketplace have a great opportunity to witness for Christ.

1. We need men and women of integrity who work honestly as a platform for witnessing for Christ.

2. Society is deteriorating and the answer is Christ changing us.