

Educated Beyond Our Obedience

Sunday January 12, 2020

We desire for ECC to be a church where people grow in their understanding of Jesus, deepen in their experience of Jesus, deny themselves in obedience to Jesus, and commit themselves in mission for Jesus!

Would you say that you are growing in faith, stagnant in faith, or are declining in faith? Why?

What aspects of your faith (understanding, experience, obedience, mission) do you struggle with the most? Why?

Educated Beyond Our Obedience (James 1:22,25)

When it comes to our faith in Jesus, we KNOW much more than we DO. Why do you think this is?

Sometimes we see Church, devotions, or Biblical Studies as content to consume. How have you approached these things as a consumer?

What promise is given in James 1:22-25 for those who not only HEAR but DO what the Word says?

Man Your Zone

Who or what have you blamed for lack of progress in your Christian development?

What "zones" of your life have you been negligent with?

How can you take greater responsibility in shaping these areas for growth?

Adding Obedience (2 Peter 1:3-11)

Read 2 Peter 1:3-4. What has God equipped you to be and do?

If you have Jesus, do you LACK anything that enables you to be and do these things?

What does it mean to "respond to God's promises" (v. 5)?

How do we add these things (from verses 5-7) to our faith?

"The Christian revolutions came not by the discovery of something that was not known before. They happen when someone takes radically something that was always there." ~ H. Richard Niebuhr

How does this passage (vv. 8-11) conclude? What are the choices presented?

Seek Discomfort (Lk. 9:23; 2 Tim. 3:5)

*"To be a Christian means to participate in the life of Christ - all of it; only the whole brings peace."
~Romano Guardini*

How much of your life does Jesus want to transform into His likeness? What areas?

What do you FEAR most about giving these areas of your life to Jesus?

*"If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross daily, and follow me."
~ Luke 9:23*

What does it mean to "give up your own way"?

"Life can be as fulfilling and authentic as you wish as long as you're willing to seek discomfort."

Take It Home:

1. Being a disciple of Jesus starts with forming a relationship with Him.
 - Jesus, I want to leave the life I'm living and I choose to follow you.
2. Being a disciple of Jesus means becoming like Him in His character.
 - Jesus, I want my life to come to look more and more like yours.
 - As Jesus' light increases in our life, more areas that don't look like Jesus come into focus and He does the work of cleaning us up.
3. Being a disciple of Jesus means doing the things that He does.
 - Read through the Gospels. As you read, ask God to reveal ways in which you can practically act like Jesus in your world. Start saying "yes" to the things that He invites you to do with Him.

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