

### INTRODUCTION TO THE SUBJECT

(Matthew 6:19-21)

- Four Essentials for Spiritual Prosperity:
  - Employability
    - "A set of skills, understandings and personal attributes that make someone more likely to gain employment and be successful in their chosen occupation"
  - Availability
    - "The state of being free for employment or a specific task, and being willing and able to be used"
  - Profitability
    - "Something of value which remains at the close of a fixed period of time"
  - Accountability
    - "A system by which an individual is evaluated on their performance or behaviour relating to something for which they are responsible"

### "IN PRAISE OF PLODDERS"

(Warren Wiersbe)

**P** Praying

Listening

Obeying

Deciding

### WHAT IS A DISCIPLE?

(Luke 9:23)

#### • DICTIONARY:

- "A follower or pupil of a teacher, leader, or philosopher"
- "In Christian circles: a personal follower of Jesus Christ"

#### TO BE A FOLLOWER:

We must focus on the One we are following

#### • THEREFORE:

- "Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <u>looking</u> unto Jesus ..." (Hebrews 12:1-2)
- "Let us ... go forth to Him outside the camp, bearing His reproach ..." (Hebrews 13:13)

# "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me"

(Luke 9:23)

#### FOLLOW HIS EXAMPLE:

• "I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you" (John 13:15)

#### • LOVE:

- "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another" (John 13:34)
- "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35)

#### • OBEDIENCE:

• "If you love Me, keep My commandments" (John 14:13)

#### ABIDING/FRUITBEARING

- "Abide in Me, and I in you ... I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing" (John 15:4-5)
- "Abide in My love ..." (John 15:9)

#### WITNESSING:

- "You also shall bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning" (John 15:27)
- "As My Father has sent Me, I also send you" (John 20:21)
- "You shall be witnesses unto Me ..." (Acts 1:8)

#### • PERSECUTION:

- "These things, I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world" (John 16:33)
- "All who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution" (II Timothy 3:12)

#### • PRAYER:

- "Whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you" (John 16:23)
- "Ask and you will receive that your joy may be full" (John 16:24)

#### • REMEMBRANCE:

- "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me" (Luke 22:19)
- "He also took the cup after supper saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you" (Luke 22:20)

# PERSONAL REQUIREMENTS OF A DISCIPLE (Luke 9:23)

- A DESIRE THAT IS ESSENTIAL:
  - "If anyone desires to come after Me ..."
- A DEATH THAT IS WILLING:
  - "... take up his cross ..."
- A DENIAL OF SELF:
  - "... let him deny himself ..."
- A DAILY COMMITMENT:
  - "... take up his cross DAILY ..."
- A DEVOTION TO CHRIST:
  - "... and follow Me"

FOLLOWING HIS EXAMPLE

LOVING

OBEDIENCE

ABIDING IN HIM

FRUITBEARING

WITNESSING

PERSECUTION

PRAYER

REMEMBRANCE



### THE BIG QUESTION:

**Are YOU Employable?** 

