

Transformed living

Why We Fail To Change

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. ²Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. ³Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope when you were called— ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism; – *Ephesians 4:1-5*

I can do everything through him who gives me strength. – *Philippians 4:13*

Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. – *Matthew 3:8*

By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thorn bushes, or figs from thistles? – *Matthew 7:16*

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, – *Galatians 5:22*

QUESTION: Why is there so much desire to change, yet we see so little change?

ANSWER: _____ **Discipleship** _____

QUESTION: What does it mean to be a disciple?

ANSWER: A disciple is one that is under _____ **instruction** _____ and desires to become like his teacher.

Three reasons why we fail at discipleship:

1. We fail to **recognize** the basics of Christianity.

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. – *Romans 3:23-24*

For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from observing the law. – *Romans 3:28*

He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification. – *Romans 4:25*

Justification: It is a legal term where God declares us innocent. Yet God takes it a step further and then declares us righteous.

Sanctification: Being set apart.

Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. – *John 17:17*

2. We fail to form **Godly** relationships.

⇒ This is spiritual isolation...

3. We fail to form **spiritual** disciplines in our lives.

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, – *II Timothy 3:16*

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.

– *II Timothy 2:15*

Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. – *II Timothy 2:22*

⇒ **Spiritual growth is not only a personal matter; it is a “BODY OF CHRIST” matter.**

By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another. – *John 13:35*

THE MORE WE GROW IN CHRIST, THE MORE THE BODY OF CHRIST GROWS.