

## *Strategy of Grace – Pursuing the Role in Jesus*

*Eph. 5:15-17*

*February 10, 2013*

**What kind of person does God require to do His work? One who:**

- **Knows and loves Jesus** – The person is growing in relationship with Jesus to know and love Him. Matt 22:37-39; 1 John 2:13-14
- **Practices Spiritual Disciplines** – This person is learning and putting into practice spiritual disciplines for growth and service. John 17:17; Rom. 8:28-29; 12:1-2; 2 Tim. 2:15
- **Engages Discipleship** - He is committed to the Great Commission of discipling others. Matt. 28:18-20

These are the characteristics of a committed disciple we looked at several weeks ago from Matt. 4:19. God really wants you to have **FAITH**:

- **Faithful** – He humbly depends on God facing every challenge and joy of life. Matt. 25:21-23.
- **Available** – He’s humbly available because he has examined and reordered his life. Is. 6:8; Eph. 3:8-9.
- **Intentional** – He humbly goes before God seeking God’s will each day in order to live that will out in his life. Phil. 3:9-14; 1:21
- **Teachable** – He is a humble student of God’s Word for life. Ps. 25:1-5; 2 Tim. 2:15; 3:16-17
- **Holy Spirit controlled** – He humbly depends on the Holy Spirit rather than his own talents, abilities or wisdom. Eph. 5:18; Luke 4:1-14

***Jesus will transform you to accomplish His will  
and to become spiritual parents IF you pursue that!***

- Jesus is a sovereign gentleman. He will not coerce you. You are not advancing only because you are not pursuing. All the resources of heaven are available to you in His Word and by His Spirit to raise you up.
- Jesus uses all circumstances to prepare you for His mission. Challenges of life are the crucible for pressing forward in His will. Your flesh will want to give up, but He will empower you to keep going.
- Every mindful person can be a spiritual parent to help others. Your humble submission to His Spirit to glorify Jesus will cause you to see His miraculous HOPE and growth in your life.

## Message Based Discussion Questions

- 1) Who is someone you admire in the world? What are his/her characteristics?

### **Digging Deeper**

- 2) What are some of the fears and excuses Moses had from Exodus 3:11- 4:17? \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_. Today, what are fears or excuses that prevent people from taking responsibility to do what God calls them to do?
- 3) What are several characteristics required of an overseer in 1 Timothy 3:1-7? \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_. Are these characteristics that should be true only of elders? Who else should spiritually grow into these? Why?
- 4) Read the letters written to the Church of Ephesus and the Church of Laodicea (Rev. 2:1-7; 3:14-22. What are characteristics of these churches? \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_. Which church do think would do a better job of fulfilling the Great Commission? Why?

### **Making application from the message:**

- 5) How has the enemy as an angel of light deceived the church today (2 Cor. 11:13-15)? Is the church of today being deceived? How has the Vision series challenged you in your thinking?
- 6) Why do you suppose God doesn’t require you to have certain “degrees” to do His work? What kinds of things hold you back from taking the next step? What could you do to take the next step?