**Everyday Discipleship with Real People**

**Teaching #1: “The Journey to Christlikeness!”**

**Pastor Jerry D. Ingalls**

**January 7, 2024**

Christian Discipleship is the intentional journey to Christlikeness!

**Read Romans 8:29:**

+ “predestined to become”

+ “conformed to the image of His Son”

God chose you to look like Jesus!

**Look at the context. Read Romans 8:26-28:**

+ “according to the will of God” (27)

+ “to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose” (28).

What is that purpose? “To become conformed to the image of His Son – to be God’s “image bearer” (Genesis 1:26-28).

**Read Colossians 1:15.**

+ “the image of the invisible God”

When we look like Jesus – Christlikeness – we do that which Christ came to do (Luke 19:10 & Matthew 28:18-20)!

**Memorize Mark 1:17:**

**+ The Call = “Follow Me”**

**+ The Promise = “I will make you become…”**

Discipleship is the life-long journey of learning and manifesting who you are as a “disciple” through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit. A disciple is a person who intentionally follows the ways and teachings of Jesus Christ.

FOCUS: The call of discipleship requires you to “follow” Jesus. The promise of discipleship requires you to trust the work of the Holy Spirit to “make you become.”

**Read Philippians 2:12-13.**

+ “work out your salvation with fear and trembling”

+ “it is God at work in you … for His good pleasure”

Christian Discipleship is a BOTH-AND: Hard work + a lot of trusting God! This journey is a long obedience in the same direction of Christlikeness (Matthew 11:28-30)!

**Read 1 Timothy 4:7b-8.**

**+ “Discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness”**

**+ “godliness is profitable for all things”**

**We are to train ourselves according to godliness – the pattern of Jesus’ life (“godliness” = “Christlikeness”).**

**Action Items for this week:**

**1) Start the 90-Day New Testament Reading Challenge, reading Matthew 1-21 this week. Pick up a reading plan.**

**2) Start a notebook or journal about your reading plan. Bring it next week as I will teach you how to write a SOAP journal entry for either each chapter or each day.**