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REVIEW

- As Christians (disciples of Jesus) we strive to become more Christ-like in every area and sphere of our lives as we grow in spiritual maturity.
- Spiritual maturity is marked by the fruit of the spirit evidenced in our lives as we abide in Christ
- Spiritually mature Christians love God and love others well.
- Humility is an essential characteristic of loving well like Jesus.
- When you surrender your life to Jesus and become a Christian you become a part of God's family, the Church, where you learn to love and be loved.
- God's design is that the church becomes the family/home for those who do not have one.
- What we learn and practice in the church gets put into play in the home and the world.

THIS WEEK: BEING A REVOLUTIONARY DISCIPLE IN THE WORLD SPHERE

The world sphere contains the environments and relationships in which you work, live and play

WORK

Ephesians 6:5-9 (NIV) Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ. Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart. Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people, because you know that the Lord will reward each one for whatever good they do, whether they are slave or free. And masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Do not threaten them, since you know that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no favoritism with him.

- Slaves and masters is a depiction of employees and bosses
- Employees: work as you would for Christ - respectfully, fearfully (soberly), sincerely, with integrity, and wholeheartedly - whether free or slave - as Christ gives rewards that outweigh the rewards of the world
- Bosses: the same way- lead your employees as you would for Christ
 - Your employees' boss is Jesus, not you
 - Your boss is Jesus, not you

COMMUNITY (WHERE YOU LIVE) & HOBBIES (WHERE YOU PLAY)

- Reaching the lost and connecting the unconnected

Luke 19:10 (NIV) - For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

Romans 10:13-15 (NIV) - for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

- Therefore ... Where?

Mark 16:15 (NIV) - He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.

Matthew 9:37-38 (NIV) - Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.

WHAT DOES YOUR WORLD LOOK LIKE?

- Disciples of Jesus strive to live humbly with purpose, priority, and proportion in each of these areas in the world

IS YOUR WORLD SPHERE DISPROPORTIONATE?

WHAT ARE YOUR PRIORITIES?

WHAT'S YOUR PURPOSE?

- Purpose drives priority and priority drives proportion

WHAT DO YOU DO NOW?

- Humility re-evaluates, Pride repeats - insanity is repeating actions and expecting different results
 - Humility admits failure, Pride admits nothing
 - Humility asks for help, Pride asks for privacy
 - Humility makes a plan, Pride makes excuses
 - Humility asks for accountability, Pride asks for acceptance
 - Humility accepts responsibility, Pride accepts the destruction
 - Humility says "my failure isn't final", Pride says "my failure is forever"
 - Humility says "I'll go", Pride says "you'll go"
 - Humility surrenders to Jesus, Pride surrenders to the world
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QUESTIONS TO REFLECT AND DISCUSS:

Passages to consider: Ephesians 5:1-21; Ephesians 6:5-9; Matthew 5:13-16

Ice Breaker: *What is your favorite t-shirt slogan, bumper sticker, or meme?*

Questions:

1. What was important to you from the sermon? What is God showing you about being a revolutionary disciple?
2. When you think of the world sphere what comes to mind? What would you include in your sphere?
3. Read Ephesians 5:15-19 & 6:5-9. What do these passages show you about the world sphere – interacting in the spaces & places where we work, live and play?
4. What is significant about the attitude of your heart when it comes to work? (All work, whether there is a paycheck involved or not ·) How are the culture's purposes for work different from God's purposes for work? What part do humility and pride play in how you approach work?
5. Read Matthew 5:13-16. Where has God placed you to be salt and light? What opportunities do you have to do good for others and reflect the Kingdom of God to those you work with or live near?
6. What can cause the spheres of your life to get out of sync? How is your 'abiding' sphere impacting your approach to any of the different spheres?

Passages for next week: Spiritual Sphere - Ephesians 6:10-20