

THE DISCIPLINES OF LIFE SERIES

DEVELOPING A LIFESTYLE THAT'S USABLE TO GOD

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER WNX-521 SEPTEMBER 22, 2010

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

THE DISCIPLINE OF **DETAIL**

*A PRACTICAL SERIES ON CHRISTIAN DISCIPLINES
AND HOW WE SHOULD BE LIVING IN THE WORLD AROUND US*

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Christianity 101, Faith, Wisdom, Discipleship

Introduction to the Text;

Philippians 1:21

Matthew 28:18-20

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "**All authority** has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. **:19 Go therefore** and **make disciples** of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **:20 teaching them to observe all things** that I have commanded you; and behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the world."

Philippians 1:21

For to **Me**, to live is **Christ**, and to die is **Gain**.

THE DISCIPLINE OF DETAIL MEANING

to relate, to report on or to give a narrative of the particulars; to recount the specifics to know the minute, intricate and distinct characteristics.

Our Lord, The God of the Bible – is a God of Details

Consider His **Creation** / Consider You **Yourself**

It's the Details in Life that Make Life worth Living and a Life without Details is a Life without Vision, Direction & meaning In a word – It's a Boring Life, a Life that only exists

John 10:10b

...I have come that you may have **life**,
and that you might have it more **abundantly**.

We Rarely Take Notice of It, but –

It's in the details where we encounter God and see more of Him.

Psalm 139:1-3

O LORD, You have searched me and known *me*. :2 You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off. :3 You comprehend my path and my lying down, And are acquainted with all my ways.

That's Detail !

Psalm 139:16-18

your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. :17 How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! :18 Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand. When I awake, I am still with you.

That's Detail !

Details at first are often overlooked
and appear to be insignificant and unimportant.

THE DISCIPLINE OF DETAIL

THE DISCIPLINES OF LIFE SERIES

1.) Is seeing the Lord in all things

1a.) He's in the good stuff

in our humanity, in our weakness;

we want people to notice the good we do. We want to be well spoken of and appreciated – it's normal.

But the Lord is not like us.

Psalm 27:13

I would have lost heart, unless I had believed That I would see the goodness of the LORD In the land of the living.

He wants us to speak well of Him

and to appreciate Him because He is the Source of all that is good in life.

James 1:17

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

We need to tell Him we're sorry for all of our
Ingratitude & Unthankfulness.

2 Thessalonians 2:13

But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because...

1 Thessalonians 5:18

in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

SEEING THE LORD IN ALL THINGS

1b.) He's in the bad stuff

Many Christians Today Have a Pagan View of God.

"God can only be involved in the good stuff and is absent in the bad stuff."

"He's not involved in Iran or Lebanon or North Korea, but He is.

Romans 8:38

For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, :39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**He doesn't cause bad stuff to happen – But He does
use the bad stuff for our good.**

The Apostle Paul says it this way...

Philippians 1:21

For to Me, to live is Christ, and to die is Gain.

Jesus Christ confirms it this way

Matthew 10:29-31

Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father's will. :30 But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. :31 Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.

The more we "Lose" our lives for Jesus while living,
The "Larger" we live our lives while here.

Philippians 3:8-10

Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ :**9** and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which *is* from the law, but that which *is* through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; :**10** that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings,

SEEING THE LORD IN ALL THINGS

1c.) He's in the ugly stuff

Mark 8:34-35

When He had called the people to *Himself*, with His disciples also, He said to them, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. :**35** For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it.

The Ugly stuff is the stuff of life

that we have a hard time seeing God in.

Like the evils of life

If God is good - why is there evil in the world that He's made?

Like the sicknesses of life

Where is God when we're sick - why doesn't He just heal me?

Like the pains of life

My life hurts - why is God so angry with me.

Ecclesiastes 3:11

He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the hearts of men; yet they cannot fathom what God has done from beginning to end.

HE'S IN THE "UGLY" STUFF

According to Jewish Tradition

While building Solomon's temple, the builders had received from the quarry a large, uncut stone that didn't seem to match nor fit into the construction activity at the moment. Workers were stumbling over, asking questions about it and finally, a supervisor ordered that the inconvenient stone be pushed over the side and into the Kidron valley. Years later, as they came close to finishing the temple, the supervisor asked for the chief Cornerstone. The quarry manager said, we sent it to you when we first began this project. The supervisor then remembered the stone that it had been reject because it was in the way.

Psalm 118:22-23

The stone, which the builders rejected, has become the chief cornerstone.
:23 This was the LORD'S doing; It is **marvelous** in our eyes.

marvelous aDIÚpD• pala}, paw-law´;

difficult, hard to see, wonderful, hidden, things too high to grasp

THE DISCIPLINE OF DETAIL

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2.) Is letting the Lord guide in all things

2a.) He's knows **where** He want us to go

There is no such thing as a destination without a route.
It can be by car, by foot, by plane, by train....

Jeremiah 29:11-13

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. :12 Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. :13 And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.

Jesus has a Destination that He desires for you.

(this is a defining factor in discipleship – will you trust Him to take you there?)

He doesn't need our help, but He requests our cooperation we've got to **agree** with Him and proceed with Him.

Amos 3:3

Can two walk together, unless they are agreed?

John 16:13

However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth;

2b.) He holds the **map** for our journey

Psalm 32:8-9

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye. :9 Do not be like the horse or like the mule, *Which* have no understanding, *Which* must be harnessed with bit and bridle, else they will not come near you.

Matthew 4:17-20

From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” :18
And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. :19 Then He said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.” :20 They immediately left *their* nets and followed Him.

2c.) He knows what time we'll arrive

We're strange people,

we rush around doing this and that so that we can get to the finish as fast as we can.
And then we wonder why we didn't see this or that along the way.

Psalm 46:10

Be still, and know that I *am* God; I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth!

Psalm 27:14

Wait on the LORD; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the LORD!

Psalm 37:34

Wait on the LORD, And keep His way,

**Come Forward For a Time of,
Dedication & Re-Dedication**

————— *End of Study* —————