

key elements of discipleship: part 2



Give _____

1. Giving hope is vital to bringing comfort or confronting sin (Ps 34:18; Prov 15:13; 17:22; 18:14)
2. Hope produces great things in the lives of people (Heb 6:19-20; 2 Cor 3:12; Prov 10:28; 12:25; Heb 11:24-26; 1 Thess 1:3; Lam 3:18-21)
3. A lack of hope has awful results
4. The essence of true biblical hope
 - An expectation of good that is based on the promises of God (Titus 1:2; Rom 8:28; 2 Cor 9:8)
 - Possible only for those who have been born again (Eph 2:12; 1 Pet 1:3; Col 1:4-5)
 - Based on the grace of God (Luke 18:9-14; 2 Thess 2:16)
 - Inseparably bound to diligent, consistent and accurate study of scripture (Rom 15:4; Ps 119:49; 130:5)
 - Generated by biblical thinking (Ps 33:17-22; Rom 5:2; 2 Tim 1:7)
 - Produces endurance (2 Cor 4:8-9,16-18; 1 Thess 1:3).
 - Often sustained through fellowship with other hopeful believers (1 Thess 5:11; Heb 3:13; 10:24-25)
 - Always Christ centered (1 Tim 1:1; Col 1:27; Titus 2:13; 1 John 3:2)
5. How do we help others develop and maintain an attitude of hopefulness?
 - Help them develop a vital relationship with God and hope-filled people
 - Help them focus on the attributes of God that are most relevant to the issues at hand
 - Help them make the scriptures relevant to the situation (Luke 24:13-25; Acts 8:26-40)
 - Help them consider how often people just like us have faced similar difficulties successfully, especially Jesus (Heb 4:14-16)
 - Help them pray and learn to take charge of their thoughts, talking to themselves instead of listening to themselves
 - Help them recognize that we as believers are free from slavery of sin and external circumstances
 - Help them identify and confess their own sin, taking responsibility for their sins and laying out a specific biblical procedure for change

Establish _____

1. Be more interested in them than their problem
2. Point them to Christ
3. Pray for them (Col 1:3-14, esp. 6, 9-12)
4. Be compassionate (Heb 2:14-18)
 - Observe how Jesus showed compassion (Matt 9:35-38; Mk 6:34; Heb 4:15-16)
 - Observe how Paul showed compassion (Acts 20:31; Phil 1:3-8; 2 Cor 11:28-29)
 - Remember your own forgiveness and the grace that has been shown you (Matt 18:21-35)
5. Be gentle and humble (Matt 11:28-30; Gal 6:1)
6. Show them respect (Lk 6:31; Rom 12:10)
 - Show genuine interest in what they say
 - Take no personal offense
 - Take their word at face value
 - Treat them as responsible
 - Take their problems serious – don't make light of them
7. Be genuine and honest (Eph 4:15)
8. Take pains to communicate well (Eph 4:29)
9. Take pains to listen well (Prov 18:13; Ps 116:1-2)
 - Listen with the outer man
 - Listen with the inner man
 - Listen with eagerness and expectation
 - Listen with restraint and self-control
 - Listen with humility, as a servant
 - Ask good question in response to listening to the person is saying
 - Pray for God's grace to help you listen
10. Love them (1 Cor 13:1-7)
 - You will be of no value without love (vv. 1-3)
 - Practice these characteristics when ministering to others (vv. 4-7)