



Discipleship Lesson 11 1Q 2014

Discipling Spiritual Leaders

Before we start class I wanted to share another email I received. I am getting about 100 emails or more per week from around the world. This is another representative of what we are experiencing all over.

I can't believe how well your DVDs took off in our church. Glory to God. I gave out fifty copies in Sabbath School within twenty minutes more and more members were requesting DVDs. The next Sabbath other church members were coming to me reporting, "I heard some good news about the DVDs you gave out, do you have anymore?" One of my spiritual mentors reported that this was the most powerful messages he has ever received and feels blessed for receiving it. I truly believe this message is right on time, as many people are turning away from the church due to the presentation of dictator God. So many forget we serve a God of love. People's faces are changed after viewing this DVD, I know God inspired you to create these series. Thank You Tim. I have bought 5 copies of "The God Shaped Brain" and I wont stop purchasing this book until every Sabbath School Teacher, Elder, Pastor and leaders in the church has one. It will take me some time, but it is my mission. Can you send me 50 more copies of the "God and Your Brain DVD", "Healing The Mind DVD" and "Truth, Love and Freedom Bible Study Guides. I am taking up a collection of a free will offering to send your ministry as you are much needed in this day and time. – Massachusetts

SUNDAY

Read first paragraph, “Christ’s earthly sojourn...” thoughts? Whom should Jesus select? What qualities should the persons possess that would be selected to be Jesus’ Apostles?

Here is a view from more than a century ago:

The work of Jesus was to reveal the character of the Father, and to unfold the truth which He Himself had spoken through prophets and apostles; but there was found no place for the truth in those wise and prudent men. Christ, the Way, the Truth, and the Life, **had to pass by the self-righteous Pharisees, and take his disciples from unlearned fishers and men of humble rank.** These who had **never been to the rabbis, who had never sat in the schools of the prophets, who had not been members of the Sanhedrin, whose hearts were not bound about with their own ideas,**--these He took and educated for His own use. He could make them as new bottles for the new wine of His kingdom. These were the babes to whom the Father could reveal spiritual things; **but the priests and rulers, the scribes and Pharisees, who claimed to be the depositaries of knowledge, could give no room for the principles of Christianity,** afterward taught by the apostles of Christ. The chain of truth, link after link, was given to those who realized their own ignorance, and were willing to learn of the great Teacher. {5BC 1088.9}

Whom should Jesus choose?



I like to remember, while Jesus did not choose one theologian to be amongst His Apostles, He did choose a physician – Dr. Luke! He wasn't against education, only certain types of education. Notice who else He chose, and see if we can discern what their educations had in common?

He also chose an accountant, Matthew, and fishermen, and Jesus Himself was a carpenter.

What do all these professions have in common? What professions did He noticeably not choose?

- Lawyers
- Theologians
- Priests

What is the significant difference between the education of doctors, accountants, fishermen, carpenters and lawyers, theologians and priests?

The first group all worked with and were educated to understand natural law:

- Doctors – the laws of health
- Accountants – mathematics
- Fisherman and carpenters the laws of nature and cause and effect

But lawyers, theologians and priests were all educated on imposed law; they worked in an arbitrary world of rules, restrictions, rituals, and legalities, that had been disconnected from the reality of the fabric of the cosmos. Thus, they presented things disconnected from their true importance, and taught an arbitrary deity. Thus these professions are particularly vulnerable to distorting the truth about God.

Jesus chose those who were open and connected to God's law in nature, His law of design, and thus with these minds he could enlighten with the greater truths of the Cosmic Conflict and the purpose of His mission.

So, what other qualities did His Apostles possess?

- Teachableness
- An open mind
- A desire to know God
- A longing to be better people
- A desire to help others
- A willingness to admit they were wrong
- Life experience in the natural world
- Yet all were imperfect, infected with fear and selfishness and in need of renewal of heart

Why do you think Christ chose 12? He didn't choose 10 or 13 or some other number, why 12?

Was it because He was making a statement that He was replacing the 12 tribes of Israel with a new system? As we read last week:



“Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's HOUSE **built on the foundation of the apostles** and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a HOLY TEMPLE in the Lord. And in him YOU too [you all] are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.” Ephesians 2:19-22.

Was Jesus building His true House, of which the house built by the Jews was only a little theater?

Read second paragraph, “Choosing effectively...” thoughts?

Did Jesus choose Judas? Here is an historic SDA perspective:

While Jesus was preparing the disciples for their ordination, **one who had not been summoned urged his presence among them.** It was Judas Iscariot, **a man who professed to be a follower of Christ. He now came forward, soliciting a place in this inner circle of disciples.** With great earnestness and apparent sincerity he declared, "Master, I will follow Thee whithersoever Thou goest." Jesus neither repulsed nor welcomed him, but uttered only the mournful words: "The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay His head." Matthew 8:19, 20.

Judas believed Jesus to be the Messiah; and by joining the apostles, he hoped to secure a high position in the new kingdom. This hope Jesus designed to cut off by the statement of His poverty. {DA 293.2}

What motive did Judas have for joining the apostles? Greed, selfishness, self-advancement.

What do you think about Christ's response, neither welcoming, nor rejecting, but articulating His earthly poverty?

Consider the different reactions and potential outcomes had Jesus done the following:

- Welcomed Judas – what is the potential result? Judas feels validated in his motive, and the other disciples have even more confidence in him
- Reject Judas – Judas feels rejected, and accuses Jesus of being just as bigoted as the Pharisees, not truly open to all who want to come to Him
- Tell Judas of His poverty – provide evidence for Judas to evaluate and consider, which has the potential to lead Judas to reexamine his motives, repent and become a true follower, or realize Jesus is not the worldly messiah he is looking for and thus, on his own, leave.

Does God work with us like this today? Give us evidence and leave it to us to consider its import and draw our conclusions?

Read third paragraph, “Having chosen...” Thoughts?

What is “spiritual authority?” Here is another historic SDA perspective:



Christ's words contain nothing that is nonessential. The Sermon on the Mount is a wonderful production, yet so simple that a child can study it without misunderstanding. The mount of beatitudes is a symbol of the spiritual elevation on which Christ ever stood. Every word He uttered came from God, and **He spoke with the authority of heaven.** "**The words that I speak unto you,**" He said, "**they are spirit, and they are life.**" John 6:63. His teaching is full of ennobling, saving truth, to which men's highest ambitions and most profound investigations can bear no comparison. He was alive **to the terrible ruin hanging over the race,** and **He came to save souls by His own righteousness,** bringing to the world definite assurance of hope and complete relief. {Counsels to Parents and Teachers 439.1}

What do you hear described? A list of rules, or something more? Is heavenly authority the authority of raw power, intimidation, and ability to destroy the disobedient? Or is it something else?

What do you think of this warning from *Conflict and Courage*:

No error accepted by the Christian world strikes more boldly against the authority of Heaven, . . . none is more pernicious in its results, than the modern doctrine, so rapidly gaining ground, that God's law is no longer binding upon men. {CC 210.3}

The last great conflict between truth and error is but the final struggle of the long-standing controversy concerning the law of God. Upon this battle we are now entering. {CC 210.5}

What law? And nothing strikes more boldly against the authority of Heaven than to attack God's law – i.e. How is God's law attacked and how does that strike at the authority of heaven?

What does it mean to suggest that God's law is no longer binding on men? Do they suggest the law of gravity is no longer binding, or the laws of health, or the laws of thermodynamics. So, to suggest the law of God is no longer binding on me, means what? It means they have attacked God's law much more perniciously than simply saying we don't have to obey. God's law is attacked by replacing the design protocols, the parameters upon which life is built, with the idea of an Imperial Roman law, which is a list of rules without inherent consequence.

And many Christians fall right into the changed law trap arguing how this commandment or that commandment was changed by God, but is an arbitrary test of obedience. In other words, many of those arguing for the honor of God's law are actually spreading the lie and don't even know it.

How does the idea that God's law is not the design protocols but imposed rules attack the authority of heaven?

It represents God as dictator, representing His law as a list of rules that the rule giver must externally enforce, strikes at heaven's authority because it is a lie, and as such breaks trust and incites rebellion; AND because it is a violation of the law of liberty which incites rebellion, and because it misrepresents God as a dictator which instills rebellion.



Here is from a book called *The Desire of Ages*:

There stood the young Galilean [Jesus], bearing no earthly honor or royal badge. Surrounding Him were priests in their rich apparel, rulers with robes and badges significant of their exalted station, and scribes with scrolls in their hands, to which they made frequent reference. Jesus stood calmly before them, with the dignity of a king. **As one invested with the authority of heaven**, He looked unflinchingly upon His adversaries, who had rejected and despised His teachings, and who thirsted for His life. They had assailed Him in great numbers, but their schemes to ensnare and condemn Him had been in vain. Challenge after challenge He had met, **presenting the pure, bright truth in contrast to the darkness and errors of the priests and Pharisees**. He had set before these leaders *their real condition*, and the **retribution sure to follow persistence in their evil deeds**. The warning had been faithfully given. Yet another work remained for Christ to do. Another purpose was still to be accomplished. {DA 610.1}

The interest of the people in Christ and His work had steadily increased. **They were charmed with His teaching, but they were also greatly perplexed. They had respected the priests and rabbis for their intelligence and apparent piety. In all religious matters they had ever yielded implicit obedience to their authority.** Yet they now saw these men trying to cast discredit upon Jesus, a teacher whose virtue and knowledge shone forth the brighter from every assault. They looked upon the lowering countenances of the priests and elders, and there saw discomfiture and confusion. **They marveled that the rulers would not believe on Jesus, when His teachings were so plain and simple.** They themselves knew not what course to take. With eager anxiety they watched the movements of those whose counsel they had always followed. {DA 611.1}

What authority did Jesus wield? The authority of heaven, which is what? Truth and love, and He exposed the true “condition” of the Jewish leadership – which is what? A diagnosis, it is reality, it is not a legal condition, but a state of being. Their hearts were deviant from God’s design. They were in a terminal condition and believed in a false remedy, thus they only worsened. The retribution, was not an imposed punishment by God, but the inevitable pain and suffering that unremedied sin brings.

Christ’s teaching was simple, and appealed to the people. What obstructed the people from fully embracing His teaching? The church leadership, the theologians, why? Because the people had been conditioned to surrender their thinking to others. They had been deceived into believing that authority rests in rank, church office, or position, rather than learning that genuine authority is in truth, the reality of the cosmos, which originates in God and His character of love!

MONDAY

Read first paragraph, “Information was an...” thoughts? Do you agree with this? Is there a difference between information and truth? What is the difference between information and truth?

What did Jesus mean when He said, “You will know the truth and the truth will set you free”? Jn 8:32

What of this commentary on the work of the Holy Spirit:



The Comforter is called "the Spirit of truth." His work is to define and maintain the truth. He first dwells in the heart as the Spirit of truth, and thus He becomes the Comforter. There is comfort and peace in the truth, but no real peace or comfort can be found in falsehood. **It is through false theories and traditions that Satan gains his power over the mind.** By directing men to false standards, he misshapes the character. **Through the Scriptures the Holy Spirit speaks to the mind, and impresses truth upon the heart.** Thus He exposes error, and expels it from the soul. It is by the Spirit of truth, working through the word of God, that Christ subdues His chosen people to Himself. {DA 671.1}

Can bad information, lies, damage? Can they destroy? Can good information, truth, heal?

The lesson points out that "Biblical knowledge coupled with God's Divine Spirit form a spiritual combination that transforms individuals and societies."

Is Biblical knowledge different from information?

The fourth paragraph states, "Christianity is not..." thoughts? What is the balance between truth, knowledge, facts and experience?

The integrative evidence based approach, requires harmony of all three. Satan wants to split the three threads, experience alone leads to mysticism or fanaticism, whereas scientific facts alone lead to godlessness, Biblical facts alone lead to distortions, confusion and ultimately false religions that misrepresent God and abuse others.

We need to harmonize the three threads.

TUESDAY

Read second paragraph, "Twenty-first century disciple-makers..." thoughts?

Absolutely, we need to be acquainted with Scripture, but what does it mean authentic spiritual information?

Are they saying if it doesn't come from Scripture it is not authentic spiritual information? And if not authentic, then what? Fraudulent? Are they suggesting that Scripture is the only place for authentic spiritual information?

But, can the Scripture also be a place where people claim authority for false spiritual ideas?

Let's give an example – there is a spiritual idea taught by some that God predetermines who will be saved and who will be lost, some even teach God predetermines who will be raped, who will be molested, who will go to prison, who will die in car crashes, that we have no free will choice, God is Sovereign and thus is in control and has predetermined some for eternal hell and others for eternal salvation.



They use texts like:

What then shall we say? Is God unjust? Not at all! ¹⁵ For he says to Moses,
“I will have mercy on whom I have mercy,
and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.”

¹⁶ It does not, therefore, depend on man’s desire or effort, but on God’s mercy. ¹⁷ For the Scripture says to Pharaoh: “I raised you up for this very purpose, that I might display my power in you and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.” ¹⁸ Therefore God has mercy on whom he wants to have mercy, and he hardens whom he wants to harden. Rom 9:16-18

Those who teach predestination would say they are basing their beliefs upon the Bible. Yet, those who teach freewill choice, that we decide our destiny, not God, use passages like:

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son. Jn 3:16-18

How can we tell which view is right, both say they use the Bible?

We use the integrative evidenced based approach. We examine the Scripture in light of God’s design laws. One of those laws, the law of liberty. Love cannot exist in an atmosphere without freedom. Once we understand this law, it is a predictable and reproducible law, then we know that the interpretation of Scripture that violates freedom cannot be right, we must find another understanding. Also, what kind of being would God be, if He predetermined everyone’s choices?

So how do we understand the Romans text? From my paraphrase:

^{9:14} How shall we interpret this? Is God unfair? Is God arbitrary or unjust? Absolutely not! In no way! ¹⁵ For he says to Moses,

“I choose to be merciful to all mankind, and I will have compassion on the entire human race.”

^{9:16} Our healing doesn’t depend on some effort, desire or work on our part, but on the fact that God is merciful and offers the Remedy freely to everyone. ¹⁷ For the Scripture says of Pharaoh: “I raised you up so that I might pour out my truth upon you and that my character might be known throughout the entire world. And even though you resisted me and fought against me I was patient and merciful with you.” ¹⁸ Therefore, God is merciful to whom he chooses, and stern to those he chooses.

Were God’s actions to Pharaoh merciful or unmerciful to him? Is a parent merciful or unmerciful to give their child vaccines? If your 3 y/o child is playing with lighter fluid and matches and you take them with a severe chastisement are you being merciful or unmerciful?



What was Pharaoh doing before God sent Moses? And because God's universe operates upon design law, what impact does worshipping false God's have upon the worshipper? It is destructive, damages the mind, warps the character and ultimately destroys the individual.

Was God's actions against Egypt punishments or therapeutic interventions to reveal the impotence of the Egyptian god's and lead Pharaoh out of darkness, where his terminal condition was only worsening, into the truth where he could experience eternal healing?

This week Dr. George Graves sent me an article I had not come across before, one of the historic documents filled with great insights. Here is a portion:

"Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the Scriptures." Before this opening of their understanding, the disciples had not understood the spiritual meaning of what Christ had taught them. **And it is necessary now that the minds of God's people should be opened to understand the Scriptures. To say that a passage means just this and nothing more, that you must not attach any broader meaning to the words of Christ than we have in the past, is saying that which is not actuated by the Spirit of God. The more we walk in the light of the truth, the more we shall become like Christ in spirit in character and in the manner of our work, and the brighter will the truth become to us. As we behold it in the increasing light of revelation, it will become more precious than we first estimated it from a casual hearing or examination. The truth, as it is in Jesus, is capable of constant expansion, of new development, and like its divine Author it will become more precious and beautiful; it will constantly reveal deeper significance, and lead the soul to aspire for more perfect conformity to its exalted standard. Such understanding of the truth will elevate the mind and transform the character to its divine perfection....** {RH, October 21, 1890 par. 1}

It is not God that puts the blinder before the eyes of men or makes their hearts hard; it is the light which God sends to his people, to correct their errors, to lead them in safe paths, but which they refuse to accept,--it is this that blinds their minds and hardens their hearts. They choose to turn from the light, to stubbornly walk in sparks of their own kindling, and the Lord positively declares that they shall lie down in sorrow. When one ray of light which the Lord sends is not acknowledged, there is a partial benumbing of the spiritual perceptions, and the second revealing of light is less clearly discerned, and so the darkness will constantly increase until it is night to the soul. Christ said, "How great is that darkness!" {RH, October 21, 1890 par. 3}

What kind of law is being described here?

Did God harden Pharaoh's heart? Without the truth presented Pharaoh would have had no opportunity to reject it and his heart would not have been as hard as it ended up. Did God present the truth to Pharaoh for the purpose of hardening his heart? No! Who was responsible for the hardening of Pharaoh's heart?



So, to whom does God want to have mercy? Everyone! And to whom does God want to harden – from His heart motive, no one, but from the outworking of His law of love and liberty, God wants people to be free and therefore experience what their freedom brings.

What makes an authentic Spiritual experience? The Holy Spirit – without the Holy Spirit the Scriptures are not useful, without the Holy Spirit church is not helpful, without the Holy Spirit prayer is not beneficial, what about Christ's death, can we benefit from it without the Holy Spirit?

Here is a historic Adventist View:

The Holy Spirit was the highest of all gifts that He could solicit from His Father for the exaltation of His people. **The Spirit was to be given as a regenerating agent, and without this the sacrifice of Christ would have been of no avail.** The power of evil had been strengthening for centuries, and the submission of men to this satanic captivity was amazing. **Sin could be resisted and overcome only through the mighty agency of the Third Person of the Godhead,** who would come with no modified energy, but in the fullness of divine power. **It is the Spirit that makes effectual what has been wrought out by the world's Redeemer. It is by the Spirit that the heart is made pure.** Through the Spirit the believer becomes a partaker of the divine nature. **Christ has given His Spirit as a divine power to overcome all hereditary and cultivated tendencies to evil, and to impress His own character upon His church.** {DA 671.2}

Of the Spirit Jesus said, "He shall glorify Me." The Saviour came to glorify the Father by the demonstration of His love; so the Spirit was to glorify Christ by revealing His grace to the world. **The very image of God is to be reproduced in humanity. The honor of God, the honor of Christ, is involved in the perfection of the character of His people.** {DA 671.3}

"When He [the Spirit of truth] is come, He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment." **The preaching of the word will be of no avail without the continual presence and aid of the Holy Spirit.** This is the only effectual teacher of divine truth. **Only when the truth is accompanied to the heart by the Spirit will it quicken the conscience or transform the life.** One might be able to present the letter of the word of God, he might be familiar with all its commands and promises; but **unless the Holy Spirit sets home the truth, no souls will fall on the Rock and be broken.** No amount of education, no advantages, however great, can make one a channel of light without the co-operation of the Spirit of God. The sowing of the gospel seed will not be a success unless the seed is quickened into life by the dew of heaven. Before one book of the New Testament was written, before one gospel sermon had been preached after Christ's ascension, the Holy Spirit came upon the praying apostles. Then the testimony of their enemies was, "Ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine." Acts 5:28. {DA 671.4}

WEDNESDAY

Read first paragraph, "It is of no small..." thoughts?



Why were they not graduates from the Jewish educational system? Why did Jesus not go to that system, they wanted him at age 12, why didn't he attend?

Here is another historic view:

The child Jesus did not receive instruction in the synagogue schools. His mother was His first human teacher. From her lips and from the scrolls of the prophets, He learned of heavenly things. The very words which He Himself had spoken to Moses for Israel He was now taught at His mother's knee. As He advanced from childhood to youth, **He did not seek the schools of the rabbis.** He needed not the education to be obtained from such sources; for God was His instructor. {DA 70.1}

The question asked during the Saviour's ministry, "How knoweth this man letters, having never learned?" does not indicate that Jesus was unable to read, but merely that He had not received a rabbinical education. John 7:15. **Since He gained knowledge as we may do,** His intimate acquaintance with the Scriptures shows how diligently His early years were **given to the study of God's word. And spread out before Him was the great library of God's created works. He who had made all things studied the lessons which His own hand had written in earth and sea and sky.** Apart from the unholy ways of the world, **He gathered stores of scientific knowledge from nature.** He studied the life of plants and animals, and the life of man. From His earliest years He was possessed of one purpose; He lived to bless others. For this He **found resources in nature;** new ideas of ways and means flashed into His mind as He studied plant life and animal life. Continually He was seeking to draw from things seen illustrations by which to present the living oracles of God. The parables by which, during His ministry, He loved to teach His lessons of truth show how open His spirit was to the influences of nature, and how He had gathered the spiritual teaching from the surroundings of His daily life. {DA 70.2}

Every child may gain knowledge as Jesus did. As we try to become acquainted with our heavenly Father through His word, angels will draw near, our minds will be strengthened, our characters will be elevated and refined. We shall become more like our Saviour. **And as we behold the beautiful and grand in nature, our affections go out after God.** While the spirit is awed, the soul is invigorated by coming in contact with the Infinite **through His works.** Communion with God through prayer develops the mental and moral faculties, and the spiritual powers strengthen as we cultivate thoughts upon spiritual things. {DA 70.4}

Did you notice Jesus not only studied Scripture, but science and nature as well and integrated them in His teaching? Did you also notice that each of us can learn this way as well?

Here is another historic perspective:

Jesus did not go to these schools, for they taught many things that were not true. Instead of God's Word, the sayings of men were studied, and often these were contrary to that which God had taught through His prophets. {The Story of Jesus 30.4}



God Himself by His Holy Spirit instructed Mary how to bring up His Son. Mary taught Jesus from the **Holy Scriptures, and He learned to read and study them for Himself.** {SJ 30.5}

Jesus also loved to study the wonderful things which God had made, in the earth and in the sky. In this book of nature He saw the trees and plants and animals, and the sun and the stars. {SJ 30.6}

Day by day He watched them, and tried to learn lessons from them, **and to understand the reason of things.** {SJ 30.7}

Holy angels were with Him, and helped Him to learn from these things about God. Thus, as He grew in height and strength, He grew also in knowledge and wisdom. {SJ 30.8}

Every child may gain knowledge as Jesus did. We should spend our time in learning only that which is true. Falsehood and fables will do us no good. {SJ 30.9}

Only the truth is of any value, and this we may learn from God's Word and from His works. As we study these things the angels will help us to understand. {SJ 31.1}

Once again what method did Jesus use? The Integrative-Evidence Based approach. One of the reasons we have such problems with distorted views about God in the church today is the theory of Sola Scriptura, that we can only use Scripture and other threads of evidence should be excluded. This is false. **We are not to exclude or discard or in any way devalue Scripture, but our understanding of Scripture must be harmonized with nature and experience.**

Jesus also studied as a child to understand the reason for things, what does this mean? It means there are reasons, that God's laws are not lists of rules, but actual protocols upon which life is built. Thus, nature reveals it.

Christianity has been so infected with Imperial Roman law concepts that we have forgotten so much.

The schools in Jesus' day had become infected with so many distortions about God that they were ineffective in teaching and actually darkened minds. Jesus said of the Pharisees that when they won a convert they made him twice the son of hell, how? By darkening their mind with useless ideas and distortions about God.

Are our schools in danger of this? Do we have distortions about God being taught in our schools? Are we teaching our young people to avoid integrating the three threads of evidence? Are we teaching them to believe things that don't make sense? Are we teaching ideas that faith doesn't require evidence, that we shouldn't ask questions, we should just take the Bible as it reads?

What are these teachers afraid of? The truth sets free, and loses nothing by close investigation and inquiry, but lies, falsehood, distortion, misunderstanding all get exposed with investigation of evidence.



The lesson points out that Jesus was not against education, or those who were educated. What was Jesus against in regard to education? He was against false education, i.e. teaching lies, teaching distortions, teaching faulty methods and principles, but not true education which teach His methods, strengthen the mind, and ability to discern.

But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil. Heb 5:14

THURSDAY

Read first paragraph, “Future generations...” thoughts? Does the success of a method mean it should be studied and practiced? If so, which has more adherents, Christianity, or Eastern Meditation practices? Which has thus far been more successful?

We need to study methods that are in harmony with God’s methods, character and principles, not simply on how it turns out.

Throughout earth’s history how many have actually usually been on God’s side?

- Noah’s preaching – how many responded?
- Moses teaching – how did the generations do?
- Elijah – how many on his side?
- What about fertility worship? How well did it do through the generation? Even today, 68% of Christian men use porn on a regular basis. The advertising industry uses sex to sell, should we use this because it gets such good sales results?

The third paragraph states: “Jesus established His kingdom and exemplified the principles that would perpetuate its growth.”

What is His kingdom and what are His principles?

- Truth
- Love
- Freedom
- Honesty
- Industry
- Determination
- Hope
- Patience
- Kindness
- Compassion
- Helpfulness
- Accountability
- Sewing and reaping/ allowing people to reap results in order to learn
- Humility
- Others?

FRIDAY

Discuss question 3