

# Reclaiming Spiritual Disciplines

## Recap & Sharing

Titus 2:11-14

Ben Deaver at New Hope Church on April 26, 2015

### Summer Missions Teams

Fundraising for these teams has gone great!

- KSU Christian Challenge Auction—\$16,500
- KU Christian Challenge Auction—\$6,000
- New Hope has invested in each of these students.

*Invite up Team members and Investor families.*

New Hope Summer Missions Teams Investor Families—Location—Students Going

1. East Asia I Team—*[names removed]*—Dan and Angie Flippo  
Students will be taking language classes on a college campus and engaging with students through teaching English.
2. East Asia II Team— *[names removed]*—Justin and Kristey Wiebers  
Students will be taking language classes in a city that has a large population of university students. They will be partnering with local believers to help engage with university students in that city.
3. Central Asia Team— *[names removed]*—Dale and Jannis Bremer  
Students will be interning at a community center where they will help teach conversational English and host a variety of activities to engage the local population. They will also be visiting various university campuses with the intent of meeting new contacts that they can bring to the community center.
4. Southeast Asia Team—*[names removed]*—Ben and Maris Deaver  
Students will be partnering with local believers to engage with two different people groups that have had very little exposure to the gospel. They will be trekking from village to village and will be working through translators to communicate Truth with the local people.

#2 in your program—Have a student over this summer!

*Have Justin Wiebers and Angie Flippo pray over the teams.*

*Pray for Nepal and for Kirby and Cara Lemoine.*

*Dismiss to KidsLIFE.*

**Announcements**—Refer to our updated program. It'll just get better from here hopefully!

- #3 Hospitality Interest Meeting
- #4 Men's Campout and Bonfire
- #5 Baptism Celebration Sunday—Then it's Mother's Day! After that we are going to jump in the book of Galatians for the summer.
- #1 Central Asia Missions Report— They were going to share with us in February but sickness undermined that plan. Today is even better!

## A. or J. reads Titus 2:11-14<sup>ESV</sup> and the other one prays.

### RECAPITULATION OF RECLAIMING SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

#### Why *Reclaiming Spiritual Disciplines*?

- CHAT Survey
- My woty2015 = self-control

**SERMON SERIES BIG IDEA:** Let's reclaim Gospel-powered spiritual disciplines for the sake of godliness (i.e. good works to the glory of God and for the good of His people).

#### Where we've been...

- February 8—Reclaiming Spiritual Disciplines
  - Titus 2:11-14
  - Zealous for good works!
- February 15—Reclaiming the Scriptures: Becoming Self-Feeders
  - John 6:25-71
  - We gotta grow up!
- February 22—Reclaiming Prayer: Climbing Back into Daddy's Lap (*Dave Geldart*)
  - Mark 10:13-16
  - We gotta grow young again!
- March 1—Reclaiming Fasting: Fasting to Feast
  - Luke 5:33-39
  - Sharpening our appetites for relationship with Jesus
- March 8—Reclaiming Solitude and Silence (*Bob Anderson*)
  - "There are some things that we will only learn about God in solitude and silence."
- March 15—Reclaiming Sabbath: Jesus is Lord of Rest
  - Matthew 11:27-30
- March 22—Reclaiming Worship (*Nate Sapp*)
  - John 4:19-26
  - Victory would be worshiping God in those mundane moments.
- March 29—Preaching the Gospel to Yourself
  - Romans 1:1-7, 14-17
- April 12—Reclaiming Joy: The Art of Celebration
  - Philippians 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.
- April 19—Reclaiming Generosity: Grace Takes You Further!
  - 2 Corinthians 8 and 9
- April 26—Reclaiming Spiritual Disciplines Recap
- May 3—Reclaiming Baptism—Baptism Celebration

#### Titus 2:11-14

This is one long, run-on sentence that Paul writes because he just can't stop adding detail about the grace of God and all the varied aspects that he sees and how it affects the life of believers in the present and the hope we have that will culminate in the physical return in the future and how we should here and now in light of that Gospel truth and reality and I realize that this is my own run-on sentence describing Paul's beautiful run-on sentence.

### Past

- <sup>11</sup> For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people...
- The grace of God the Father has appeared in life, works, death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ!

### Future

- ...the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ...
- The glory of God the Father, our Savior, will appear in Jesus Christ!

### Present

- ...renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, <sup>13</sup> waiting for our blessed hope...zealous for good works.
- How do we do that? How do we live this way? How does the Gospel connect with our conduct?

## GOSPEL CIRCLES

**Gospel** = who gave himself for us = Christ died for our sins!

### Gospel Truths

- ...bringing salvation for all people... (all classes/kinds/sorts of people...not universalism)
- ...to redeem us from all lawlessness...
- ...to purify for himself a people for his own possession...
- ...training us...

### Gospel Conduct

Training us...

- ...to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions... Corresponds to ...to redeem us from all lawlessness...
- ...to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age... Corresponds to ...to purify for himself a people for his own possession...
  - SELF-CONTROLLED—Disciplines in how we relate to ourselves
    - Mentioned 5 times in Titus. See **Titus 1:8; 2:2, 5, 6, 12.**
    - Self-control is a fruit of the Spirit. See **Gal 5:22-23.**
  - UPRIGHT—Disciplines in how we relate to others
  - GODLY—Disciplines in how we relate to God
  - Renounce and Replace
    - Renounce = renounce ungodliness and worldly passions
    - Replacement = live self-controlled, upright and godly live, waiting for our blessed hope

*How are we to renounce ungodliness and live well?*

- ...waiting for our blessed hope... – Active waiting in the present age!
- ...zealous for good works.

## SHARING—Priming the pump...

- Please share your name and which discipline you are referring to.
- The ABCs or sharing—Audible, Brief and Christ-centered
- Encourage one another with a victory, a failure, an action step, an idea or a resource.
- LIFE Group leaders, elders and ministry leaders, I'm leaning on you to lead the masses here!

### Reflection Questions:

1. How has God used this sermon series in your life?
2. What victories are you having with the spiritual disciplines? What struggles are you facing with the spiritual disciplines?
3. How are you connecting with God, others and yourself more deeply because of a specific spiritual discipline? How have you gotten to know God more through a specific discipline?
4. What out of the box ideas have you tried? What ideas are you excited to try?
5. What good works have come out of your pursuit of godliness through spiritual disciplines?
6. What resources have you discovered?
7. *How did you use the \$20?*

### Where we're headed... How will you...

- Reclaim the Spiritual Disciplines?
  - Zealous for good works!
- Reclaim the Scriptures?
  - The Great 8 Challenge—Memorize Romans 8 by the end of the summer.
- Reclaim Prayer?
  - Begin praying with your spouse. Few do this. It's tough to pray together! Someone needs to initiate.
  - 3x5 note cards
  - Prayer schedule
  - Schedule prayer request reminders in your calendar
- Reclaim Fasting?
  - PST encouragement to fast over lunch on Wednesdays until the Lead Pastor is identified
  - Ramadan Fast
- Reclaim Solitude and Silence?
  - Stone Barn retreat
  - Time alone with God (tawG)
    - 1-2 hours weekly; 4-8 hours monthly; 48 hour retreat annually
- Reclaim Sabbath?
  - What will work with your family's schedule?
- Reclaim Worship?
  - Sing and dance. Learn to play an instrument.
  - King David became undignified...
- Preach the Gospel to Yourself?
  - Write out the Gospel in your own words on a note card and place it on your car dash or on the bathroom mirror or elsewhere.
- Reclaim Joy/Celebration?
  - Plan a party!
  - Take someone out for a special occasion to celebrate them.
- Reclaim Generosity?
  - What's your giving plan?
  - Five \$20 bills activity

### The Five \$20 Bills

## #1—Emily Appel

Ben,

I was one of the five that received \$20 under my chair last Sunday. I'll be out of town this weekend and will miss church, so I wanted to share with you the story of what I did with it.

I actually found it interesting that I was one of the five. When I was in high school, my church back home gave \$20 out to every member of the congregation to then sow in the community. I struggled for a long while in decided how I could best use that \$20 for the Kingdom, and now, I don't even remember what I ended up choosing to do with it. So when I received the \$20 this time, I started to think of many ideas of where it could go, such as various organizations or even a friend who is support raising for her current job. My mom even mentioned that I could use the money to buy fabric to make another quilt for the Challenge auction next year. These were all good ideas, but then I came home and found out that one of my housemates was struggling to make rent because she's student teaching this semester and can't hold a regular job. When I found out that someone close to home could use the money, I knew it needed to go to her. Knowing that she wouldn't accept the money if I just gave it to her or even left it in her room, I mailed it anonymously. She received the money yesterday and doesn't know where it came from. I'm thankful that I was able to provide some support to someone who gives so much of herself in everyone that she interacts with, whether that be her students or a stranger that she meets at the union.

Thanks,

Emily Appel  
Kansas State University  
Master of Accountancy  
Graduate Teaching Assistant

## #2—Cory Kinsley

You requested that we pass along our stewardship of the \$20 underneath our seats if we were one of the lucky 5 from last Sunday.

With the \$20, I used it to purchase large Marshmallows from Mindi's donation list for Kid's Camp this upcoming summer. The cool part about the story is that I committed to two items on the list after Mindi gave her informative announcement last Sunday (to my wife). Therefore, since I was already on official record for two things, I had to extend it to three. Next, while purchasing the items, my wife acknowledged the luck of the draw and figured that was worth an additional item. So in summary, the \$20 doubled the total commitment.

Cory Kinsley

## #3—Dan Chitwood

#4—???

#5—???

## Helpful Tips:

1. Take baby steps

- a. “Little by little one travels far.” –previously thought to be J.R.R. Tolkien
  - b. Unless your facing a life threatening illness or in a rehab program it will be extremely challenging to take on too many lifestyle changes at once.
2. Get accountability
    - a. “If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.” –African proverb
    - b. LIFE Group, friend, etc.
  3. Set the stage for yourself
    - a. Plan ahead for your day of fasting.
    - b. Set out your Bible, journal, pen and coffee plan the night before.

### Recommended Resources:

- Reclaim the Spiritual Disciplines
  - *Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life* by Donald Whitney
  - *What’s Best Next: How the Gospel Transforms the Way You Get Things Done* by Matt Perman
  - [www.whatsbestnext.com](http://www.whatsbestnext.com)
- Reclaim the Scriptures—*How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth* by Gordon Fee and Douglas Stuart
- Reclaim Prayer—*A Praying Life: Connecting with God in a Distracting World* by Paul Miller
- Reclaim Fasting—*A Hunger for God: Desiring God through Fasting and Prayer* by John Piper
- Reclaim Solitude and Silence—*Invitation to Solitude and Silence: Experiencing God’s Transforming Presence* by Ruth Haley Barton and Dallas Willard
- Reclaim Sabbath—???
- The Bible
- Reclaim Worship—???
- The Bible
- Preach the Gospel to Yourself
  - *A Gospel Primer for Christians: Learning to See the Glories of God’s Love* by Milton Vincent
  - *Note to Self: The Discipline of Preaching to Yourself* by Joe Thorn
- Reclaim Joy
  - *The Call to Joy and Pain: Embracing Suffering in Your Ministry* by Ajith Frenando
  - *The Happy Christian: Ten Ways to be a Joyful Believer in a Gloomy World* by David Murray
- Reclaim Generosity—*Money, Possessions, and Eternity* by Randy Alcorn

## Pray

### Intro Dave Gevock

#### Good stuff on the chopping block:

##### Passages:

- Eph 5:15-16 Redeem the time because the days are evil.
- 1 Tim 4:7-16

**Re: Good Works**—Titus 2:6-7a; 3:14; Eph 2:8-10; 1 Pet 2:12; Matt 5:16; Gal 6:9-10; Heb 10:24-25; 13:20-21; James 2:14; 3:13