

Purpose of Discipleship

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Luke 14:28-32, 34-35.

B. Two illustrations that show the purpose of discipleship: the building of a tower and a king going to war.

II. Building the church and going to war against hell.

A. Jesus will build up people so that they may go into battle and win more people.

B. The builder is Christ.

C. Christ is building people. (1 Peter 2:5)

D. The purpose of the church is to fashion people that look like Jesus Christ and build a “house” for God. (Ephesians 2:22)

E. Since Christ has come to build and do battle he must recon the quality of those He chooses to complete the task. (1 Corinthians 4, Ephesians 3:9, Matthew 28:19-20)

III. The objective of the ministry is essentially discipleship.

A. This is to win the lost and build up the saved.

1. Our objective is not to occupy real estate.

2. It is to be involved in the battle and bring more people into the battle.

B. Salt makes a difference. It has a cleansing influence.

IV. A disciple makes a difference. Shamgar illustrates this. (Judges 3:31, 5:6)

A. He lives in an enemy occupied territory. We are strangers - this is not our home.

B. He is part of the underground resistance movement.

C. He starts where he is with what he has and does what he can.

1. We must start where we are at and only get somewhere else if we ought to.

2. We are to start with whatever little we have and use that for discipleship.

3. We are to do whatever we can. We can do discipleship one or two at a time.

D. He makes a difference. Real disciples make a difference.

Application questions

1. What is the purpose of discipleship?

2. How does Shamgar illustrate we are to go about discipleship?

3. What are you doing to contribute to the battle? What can you do this week to invest in a life?
