

UNTETHERED

Real Faith Has Fruit

When Christians don't **think** like Christians ...

Common **heresies** today:

- God accepts the worship of all religions, including Christianity, Judaism, and Islam
- Jesus was created by God
- Most people are good by nature
- Good works contribute to me earning heaven
- Only big sins deserve eternal punishment
- The Bible is helpful, but not necessarily true
- The Bible should be interpreted however a person chooses
- Certain biblical prohibitions (e.g. homosexuality) don't apply today

“**Backslidden**” or never saved?

Watch for _____!

What sort? _____ fruit!

Matthew 7:16-18 (ESV)

¹⁶ You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷ So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸ A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit.

Luke 6:43-45 (ESV)

⁴³ For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit, ⁴⁴ for each tree is known by its own fruit. For figs are not gathered from thornbushes, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush. ⁴⁵ The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV)

¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

“If there's no change, there's something strange.”

Several thoughts about **sanctification**:

1) The means that God uses to conform us into the image of Christ is _____.

John 17:17 (ESV)

¹⁷ Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.

1 Peter 2:2 (ESV)

² Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation ...

2) The centrality of the Word begins at _____ but must continue at _____, too.

Colossians 1:28-29 (ESV)

²⁸ Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. ²⁹ For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.

*What is our **agenda** as a church?*

*How is **idolatry** the problem?*

*What do we need **most** in our teaching?*

Deuteronomy 6:6-9 (ESV)

⁶ And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. ⁷ You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. ⁸ You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹ You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

James 3:1 (ESV)

¹ Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.

1 Corinthians 3:10-15 (ESV)

¹⁰ According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it. Let each one take care how he builds upon it. ¹¹ For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. ¹² Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw— ¹³ each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. ¹⁴ If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. ¹⁵ If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.

3) God has entrusted the care and discipleship of children primarily to _____!

Some observations regarding these interviews so far ...

4) A primary means of our sanctification is our _____ of Christ.

We become like what we _____!

Psalm 115:1-8 (ESV)

¹ Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness!

² Why should the nations say, "Where is their God?"

³ Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases.

⁴ Their idols are silver and gold, the work of human hands.

⁵ They have mouths, but do not speak; eyes, but do not see.

⁶ They have ears, but do not hear; noses, but do not smell.

⁷ They have hands, but do not feel; feet, but do not walk; and they do not make a sound in their throat.

⁸ Those who make them become like them; so do all who trust in them.

1 John 3:2 (ESV)

² Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.

2 Corinthians 3:18 (ESV)

¹⁸ And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

When **teaching the Word**, remember:

It's crucial to emphasize God's _____

Be careful not to create " _____ " (or modern 'Pharisees')

How to help your child **grow in wisdom**:

Teach the 'wisdom' _____

_____ for wisdom (for your children)

What is wisdom?

Trust the _____ of the Word (on its on).

Ephesians 6:4 (ESV)

⁴ Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Ephesians 6:4 (KJV)

⁴ And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Hebrews 4:12 (ESV)

¹² For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12 (KJV)

¹² For the word of God *is* quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is* a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Train your children to study the Word of God for a _____ LIFETIME

If my children don't like feasting on the Word of God, it's _____!

Takeaways for today:

1) If my child shows no evidence ('fruit') of transforming (saving) faith, I should not assume ...

... and I should ...

2) I should not consign my children's spiritual development to _____ or even to _____.

3) I should _____ what I want to see lived out by my children.