

Passing On The Work

Matthew 28:18-20

Passing On The Work

- It's the first Sunday of the month...
- Our theme is One By One
- Think about the idea of passing on the work
- Not in the sense of not doing work, but in spreading out the load
- No one person can do it all

Breaking The Trend

- It's been said that in most churches, 20% of the people do 80% of the work
- That's a trend and a statistic that we ought to look to break
- Jesus didn't want things to be that way

Breaking The Trend

- Paul spoke of everyone doing their part
- Rom. 12:3-8
- Paul says that we all have gifts (v.6) and he goes on to say “let us use them”
- That includes everyone in the body

Business Thinking

- Let's think in terms of a business (business gets their ideas from Bible)
- If a business and it's employees are offering a valuable and usable service and working hard at it, they will grow!

Business Thinking

- If they are growing, they must bring in new employees to help with the increasing work load!
- Also, some may be nearing retirement and there must be replacements
- The same is true of the Lord's church if it is growing

Bible Way

- Jesus commanded in Matt. 28:18-20 to teach all things He had commanded
- That means go out and pass on the work to others who are willing to get their hands dirty
- Paul wanted Timothy to do the same with gospel preaching – II Tim. 2:2

Bible Way

- It has been that way from the very beginning
- Deut. 6:6-7 – The idea was to pass on the work to the next generation
- Titus 2:1-10 echoes the same idea of passing on the work to others, even those of the next generation

Bible Way

- Things will really only get done if everyone chips in to help
- Think again about what we learned from the Tower of Babel – Gen. 11
- v. 6 – “Indeed the people are one and they all have one language... now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them.”

Bible Way

- ◉ If only 20% of the people were working, how much do you suppose they would have accomplished?
- ◉ Think about Joshua and the COI when they conquered Jericho...
- ◉ Josh. 6:3,20 – Look at the language used
- ◉ “Every man”

Bible Way

- Suppose only 20% marched around the city
- Think about Nehemiah and the rebuilding of the wall...
- Neh. 4:6 – “So we built the wall...for the people had a mind to work.”
- Again, what if only 20% had a mind to work?

Bible Way

- ◉ What about the early church?
- ◉ Listen to Acts 8:1&4
- ◉ What does that imply?
- ◉ All in the church were active in the work of the Lord
- ◉ That's why it grew so fast!!

Bible Way

- There was no special formula or more tenderhearted people, just more out preaching the word which equaled more contacts and more conversions
- If we all chip in and help pass out the work, more will get done and the work loads will get a little lighter

Conclusion

- We need to be passing on the work to others who are both able and willing
- Part of that comes from within
- Part of that comes from without
- O the great things we can do for the Lord if we have the mind to work!