

Biblical Discipleship

1) the Great Contrast

Two Trees in Garden (Ge 2:9) – Knowledge (world/self) & Life (Jesus)

(Ge 3:6) 6So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.

Man Chose Knowledge over Relationship with God

Satan's Strength is Knowledge (deception) - He can't do Life (fruit)

Cain (self effort) vs Abel (life)

(Ge 4:2-7) Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. 3And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the LORD. 4Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the LORD respected Abel and his offering, 5but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell. 6So the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? 7"If you do well, will you not be accepted?

(2Co 3:6) 6who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

Legalism has to Kill Life (Cain didn't choose to amend his sacrifice)

(1Co 8:1-3) We know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffs up, but love edifies. 2And if anyone thinks that he knows anything, he knows nothing yet as he ought to know. 3But if anyone loves God, this one is known by Him. (relationship)

Pride/Self Focus vs Knowing Him

Doctrine tends to Separate (denominations), Christ Unifies

(Ep 1:9-10) 9having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, 10that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him.

Jesus is THE place of Unity

not right Answers, right Relationship (with Jesus, not with Rules)

we can read the Bible with a Law/Rules Mindset

(Jn 5:39-40) 39"“You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. 40"“But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life.

Bible is not primarily for Doctrine, but to bring us into Relationship with Jesus

2) Two Discipleship Models

Pharisees (Mt 23, Lk 11)

doctrine
religious duty (rules)
outward appearance
act righteous (self focus)
leaders exalted
disciples controlled
sit and learn
avoid sinners (judgement)

Jesus

relationship with God
relational responsibility
heart issues
imputed righteousness (Jesus focus)
leaders serve
disciples released
go and teach
reconcile sinners (relationship)

Which Model are we using? What are we producing?

(Ep 4:11-13) ¹¹And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, ¹²for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, ¹³till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

What Implications does adopting this model have for you?

still must choose between Knowledge and Life

(Jn 6:60, 66-68) ⁶⁰Therefore many of His disciples, when they heard this, said, “This is a hard saying; who can understand it?”... ⁶⁶From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more. ⁶⁷Then Jesus said to the twelve, “Do you also want to go away?” ⁶⁸But Simon Peter answered Him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.”

Knowledge disciples break relationship when they don't understand

Jesus has only One Requirement to be His Disciple (follower)

(Mt 16:24-25) ²⁴Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. ²⁵“For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.

(Lk 14:33) ³³“So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.

your entire LIFE bound in relationship with Him