

Becoming A 3D Disciple

Demonstrate the Life of Jesus

Faith, Works & Service



Discover – Demonstrate – Duplicate

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Series on 3 D Discipleship

- discover
- demonstrate
- duplicate

Desire to give you information and gateways

Grow in your faith, mature as disciples

Never meant to be another list of things to do

Today – is my life reflecting what I am discovering?

- Is that important?
- where do I begin to check?

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Passage – James 2:14-26

- ✦ “What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? ¹⁵ Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. ¹⁶ If one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? ¹⁷ In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. ¹⁸ But someone will say, “You have faith; I have deeds.”

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- ✦ Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds. ¹⁹ You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder.
- ✦ ²⁰ You foolish person, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless? ²¹ Was not our father Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? ²² You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did. ²³ And the scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness,"

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- ✦ and he was called God's friend. ²⁴ You see that a person is considered righteous by what they do and not by faith alone.
- ✦ ²⁵ In the same way, was not even Rahab the prostitute considered righteous for what she did when she gave lodging to the spies and sent them off in a different direction? ²⁶ As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead."

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Need to be Clear

- What God Does For Us – Justification

- the problem of sin

- the solution provided by God

- the gift we can accept

- the result – just as if I never sinned

- ✦ - Rom 3:20-25 “²⁰ Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God’s sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin.”

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But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. ²² This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. ²⁵ God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith.”

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- Titus 3:7, Galatians 2:16, 2 Cor. 5:21
- cannot deserve it, earn it, pay it back – justified by faith in Christ's work on a cross

What God Does In Us – Regeneration

- were made in the image of God
- sin ruins us – dead hearts, wicked desires
- given a new heart - desires, will etc
- Ezekiel 36:25-27 "I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols.
²⁶ I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

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27 And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

- regeneration – change from the inside out**
 - not – behavior modification – heart change**

New heart that belongs to Jesus – John 4:4

New life that grows – 2 Cor. 5:7

New identity God's Child – Col 3:9-10

New mind – 1 Peter 2:2

New desires – Gal. 5:16-17

New Love – 1 John 4:7

New Power – Rom. 8:12-13

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New Freedom – Romans 6:6

So Far

- God did for us – justification
- God does in us – regeneration

God Does Through us – Works of Service

- Eph 2:8-10 "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— ⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do"

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- uniquely gifted and created to serve in community with one another – empowered by God.

James – in addressing his church says

1. What you claim should be evident

- if you have encountered Jesus, and accepted His gift, your new life should be evident.

- Abraham believed – and it affected his actions – was credited as righteousness

- true belief will be evidenced by actions

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2. Work this Out in Community

- ✦ - Col 3:12-17 ¹² Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ¹³ Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. ¹⁴ And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.
- ✦ ¹⁵ Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful

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¹⁶ Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

- That in relationship the evidence of regeneration happening – will be seen and practiced.**
- evidence of fruit will be seen**

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1 John 2:3-6 "We know that we have come to know him if we keep his commands. ⁴ Whoever says, "I know him," but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in that person. ⁵ But if anyone obeys his word, love for God is truly made complete in them. This is how we know we are in him: ⁶ Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did."

John 13 – washing feet

"Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you."

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So What

1. Be clear – God has done for us, in us, and desires to do through us
2. Our faith needs to be evidenced in community, and by fruit – what we discover being practiced
3. Simple dashboard indicators of this:
 - obedience
 - community
 - serving
 - generosity