

SESSION #9 - "Where To From Here?"

Turning information into transformation

Jason Winslade: jason.winslade@gmail.com

- **Information is only useful to the degree in which we correctly respond to that information.**

²² But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; ²⁴ for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. ²⁵ But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does. **(James 1:22-25)**

"Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's." **(1 Corinthians 6:19-20)**

"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."
(Galatians 2:20)

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." **(Romans 12:1-2)**

Three "Big Picture" Principles (based on the three passages above):

1. **I BELONG TO GOD**
2. **I EXIST TO GLORIFY GOD**
3. **MY TIME BELONGS TO GOD**

4-fold process to help ensure that information turns into transformation:

1. **STOP** - make time to do something about it.

"Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."" **(Matthew 11:28-30)**

2. **EVALUATE** - in light of God's Word, assess the value/worth of all the things that you'd like to see happen in your life and the life of your family.

"Commit your works to the Lord, And your thoughts will be established." (Proverbs 16:3)

3. PRIORITISE - decide what is important and what is not important – decide what things you're going to start with first.

"See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is." (Ephesians 5:15-17)

4. ACT - put into practice what you have decided and apply God's Word to your life.

"The lazy man does not roast what he took in hunting, But diligence is man's precious possession." (Proverbs 12:27)

Three important principles to consider as we plan...

1. WE NEED A PLAN/VISION.

"The plans of the diligent lead surely to plenty, But those of everyone who is hasty, surely to poverty." (Proverbs 21:5)

2. WE DO WELL TO SEEK COUNSEL AS WE PLAN.

"Without counsel, plans go awry, But in the multitude of counselors they are established." (Proverbs 15:22)

3. OUR PLAN MUST BE SPIRIT-LED & FLEXIBLE.

"A man's heart plans his way, But the Lord directs his steps." (Proverbs 16:9)

¹¹ For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. ¹² Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. (1 Corinthians 2:11-12)

- Transformation is not something which happens independently from God. Transformation is something that God does with us, and in us – so that when changes take places in our lives, He gets all the glory.

⁴ Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. ⁵ "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. (John 15:4-5)