

# 40 Weeks of Purpose

Week 38

## Becoming a World Class Christadelphian

### POINT TO MEDITATE ABOUT FROM LAST WEEK:

*God wants to say something to others through me.*

- 1) Your **Life Message** Contains Your **TESTIMONY**
- 2) Your **Life Message** Contains Your **LIFE LESSONS**
- 3) Your **Life Message** Contains Your **GODLY PASSIONS**
- 4) Your **Life Message** Contains The **GOOD NEWS**

### VERSE TO MEMORIZE FROM LAST WEEK:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 3:15 (CEV)

15) *“Always be ready to give an answer when someone asks you about your hope.”*

- Your Life Message is something that you should prepare BEFOREHAND, so that if anyone ever asks, you are READY to talk to them

### QUESTION TO CONSIDER FROM LAST WEEK:

*Who does God want me to share my personal Life Message with?*

- God has prepared you – brought you to a certain place in life – because He specifically wants you to be able to reach out to certain people. It’s important that you think this through, and figure out **WHO** you are supposed to be talking to

- You have a choice to make:

- You can either be a **WORLD CLASS CHRISTADELPHIAN**

or a

- **WORLDLY CHRISTADELPHIAN**

- **WORLDLY CHRISTADELPHIANS** look to God primarily for personal fulfillment
  - They are self-centered
  - They love to attend Study Days and Fellowship Nights, but aren't that interested in Preaching Workshops and Exhibit Booths at the local Fair
  - Their prayers focus on their own needs, blessings and happiness
  - They tend to think more about how God can make THEIR life more comfortable
- **WORLDLY CHRISTADELPHIANS** want to use God for **THEIR** purposes, instead of allowing God to use **THEM** for **HIS** Purposes
- **WORLD CLASS CHRISTADELPHIANS** know that they were called for a Purpose, that they were intended to serve others, and that preaching is their mission
  - They are excited about the privilege of being used by God
  - Their joy, confidence and enthusiasm is contagious
  - They wake up each morning expecting God to work through them in new ways
- ***Which type of Christadelphian do you want to be?***
- God invites you to take part in the greatest project in the history of the world
  - The continual, universal, calling of people for His Kingdom
  - Nothing matters more, and nothing will last as long
- Jesus called us to *“Go into all the world to preach the Gospel”*
  - Unlike the First Century Apostles, that is **EASY** for us!
  - You can get in a plane and be ANYWHERE within 24 hours
  - You don't even have to leave Simi Valley!
    - With the Internet, you can communicate instantly with people from all over the world
- The barriers to preaching to the whole world are no longer physical
  - The only barriers are how you think
- To think like a **WORLD CLASS CHRISTADELPHIAN** you have make some mental shifts:

## 1) **Shift from Self-Centered Thinking to Other-Centered Thinking**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 14:20 (CEV)

20) My friends, stop thinking like children. Think like mature people...

- This is the first step...

- Children only think of themselves

- Adults think of others

- Philippians 2:4 (NLT)

4) Don't think only about your own affairs, but be interested in others, too, and what they are doing.

- This is much more difficult than it sounds

- By nature, we are all self-absorbed

- ALL Advertising encourages us to think primarily about ourselves

- The best way to make this switch is by a moment-by-moment dependence on God

- 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 2:12 (CEV)

12) But God has given us his Spirit. That's why we don't think the same way that the people of this world think. That's also why we can recognize the blessings that God has given us.

- Start asking God to help you think of the spiritual needs of others

- When someone walks up to you, you can instantly say a silent prayer to God for Him to show you what this person needs to hear

- Your goal is to figure out where others are in their spiritual journey and then do whatever will bring them a step closer to God

## 2) **Shift from Local Thinking to Global Thinking**

- God has always been concerned about the entire WORLD

- Our lives are changing faster and faster into Global Lives

- Did you notice where that Orange or Banana you ate this morning was from?

- Did you notice where the shirt or dress you put on was made?

- The first way to start thinking Globally is to start praying for people in other nations
  - Read the news in the *Tidings*, or the *Bible Missionary* and see where the preaching efforts are going on in the world
  - Pay attention to the names of the Missionaries who are out there, and pray for them specifically

• Paul felt that those who prayed for him were **PART** of the effort:

• 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 1:11 (NLT)

11) He will rescue us because you are helping by praying for us. As a result, many will give thanks to God because so many people's prayers for our safety have been answered.

- Another way to start thinking Globally is to just pay attention to the news
  - See what is happening around the World
  - Americans are the blindest people on the planet
  - Open your eyes to the changes and conflicts happening in the world around us
- The **BEST** way to start thinking Globally is to travel
  - Go visit an Ecclesia in a different country
  - Listen to their prayers
  - Eat their food
    - Nothing will change you more!

### 3) **Shift from "Here and Now" Thinking to Eternal Thinking**

- Learn to maintain an eternal perspective on life
- This will keep you from majoring on minor issues

• 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 4:18 (NIV)

18) So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

- So much of what we waste our energy on will not matter in a year
  - Don't trade your life for temporary things

- Learn to give up your material wealth and share that in preaching to others

#### 4) **Shift from thinking of Excuses to thinking of Creative Ways to Preach**

- Sarah thought she was too old
  - Jeremiah thought he was too young
- God rejected both excuses
- Jeremiah 1:7-8 (NLT)
  - 7) “Don’t say that,” the LORD replied, “for you must go wherever I send you and say whatever I tell you.
  - 8) And don’t be afraid of the people, for I will be with you and take care of you. I, the LORD, have spoken!”
- Maybe you’ve been waiting for some supernatural “calling” from God before you try to preach
  - God has stated his Call repeatedly!
  - In the miraculous book called the Bible
- God doesn’t want **SOME** of His people to Preach
  - God wants **ALL** of us to do it!

#### **POINT TO MEDITATE ABOUT THIS WEEK:**

*The Great Commission is MY Commission.*

#### **VERSE TO MEMORIZE THIS WEEK:**

- Psalms 67:2 (NLT)
  - 2) *May your ways be known throughout the earth, your saving power among people everywhere.*

#### **QUESTION TO CONSIDER THIS WEEK:**

*What steps can I take to change myself into a World Class Christadelphian?*