

08-18-13

Title: Proclaim, Admonish and Teach

Paul has been made a minister

A steward...

Several words he uses to describe a minister

In George Muller's day, in Germany

A minister was very prestigious position

It was a well-paid position

Highly respected

George Muller's Dad wanted him to do this

George didn't even know God

George didn't own a Bible while going to divinity school...

What does Paul mean here by a minister?

Uses several words to describe his stewardship

Doulos is one – a servant, refers to submission

Submissive service

Diakonos is another – our word for deacon comes from this

A servant of servants – not the top, the bottom

The busboy of the servants if you will

No great skill involved – just work

Common labor

Huperetes – *huper* is under, *retes* is rower

This word used for bottom set of rowers on ship

Those way down, in the dark, unable to see

Chained to their oar

This is a position of commonness, lowliness and submission

Clay pots that contain a glorious message

This is the ministry God has called me to

This is the ministry God has called all of us to

To share together in

We had a great time of sharing ministry last week with VBS

Greatly appreciate everyone who helped

It was truly amazing how everything got down

*Everyone pitching in and helping when and where needed
It was great working together, serving the kids that came
Times in the past I have felt alone doing this
Not the case here, working together, working side by side
Thank you all, very much!
Taking care of little bumps and bruises
Helping the kids finish their projects
Especially the one with the little beads
Helping them see the truth of God's Word*

These verses today some specifics what this ministry involves
What were God's goals in the lives of His people?
What should we be seeking for in each other's lives
as we minister together...

Proclaim, admonish, teach

Colossians 1:28-29

28 We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ.

Proclaim Him – Jesus, the Messiah

This is what Paul proclaims

Not good ideas, not good philosophies

He proclaims Jesus, the promised One of God

Our message is Jesus, nothing more, nothing less

He proclaims...

...the riches of the glory of this mystery among the
Gentiles, which is Christ in you

Christ in you

Think of that

The all-powerful Creator of all things

Living inside of you...

Again, what is the focus here?

Is the focus on Paul, or what he proclaims?

The focus is in Jesus, who is the head...

- ...*proclaim, admonish and teach*

Dictionary – *proclaim*...to declare publicly, typically insistently, proudly, or defiantly and in either speech or writing; announce

Proclaim – publicly declare a completed truth or happening

Make known by open declaration

Used of town crier giving a message of the king

Give official notice of

Not just preaching...

Telling the whole story

Proclaim far and wide

1 Corinthians 9:14

...proclaim the gospel

1 Corinthians 11:26

...proclaim the Lord's death until He comes

Philippians 1:17

...proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition

Hebrews 2:12

I WILL PROCLAIM YOUR NAME TO MY BRETHREN

1 Peter 2:9

...so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light

1 John 1:2

...proclaim to you the eternal life

1 John 1:3

...what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also

Proclaim the gospel

Proclaim Jesus' death

Proclaim Messiah

Proclaim His name

Proclaim His excellencies

Proclaim eternal life

Proclaim what has been seen

Proclaim through all the earth that Jesus Christ is King!

Admonish – can imply there is an error and it needs correcting

Warning...

Also can be – general instruction, proclaiming the word

Encouraging counsel

Colossians 3:16

*16 Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and **admonishing** one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.*

We are to encourage and strengthen each other
Help each other see the light, the truth

Teaching – closely related to admonish, more positive
Both closely related to proclaim
Imparting positive truth
Instruction

Admonish is idea of moral correction

Teaching is more doctrinal correction

Helping others to live the kind of lives God wants us to
Helping others understand the truth proclaimed in
God's Word

We proclaim to the world
Warning and instructing them
The truth, with...

- ...with all wisdom

Proclaim with wisdom

Admonish with wisdom

Teach with wisdom

Spiritual wisdom and understanding – verse 9

Proclaim, admonish and teach with practical discernment
Understanding biblical principles of holy conduct
Doctrinal teaching, followed by practical admonitions

God is the One who fills with knowledge and wisdom
Paul is merely the agent through whom this wisdom comes

Admonishing everyone

Teaching everyone

All – everyone --

All wisdom...
To present everyone complete in Christ
 This gospel is for all
 No special “spiritual” elite
Think of that – all of us, you and me
 Us low ones, the plebes, the peasants, the paupers...
 Jews and Gentiles
 Present everyone

Complete in Christ

- *...so that we may present every man complete in Christ.*

What is the reason to proclaim, to admonish, to teach?

What is our goal, our purpose

 To present all complete in Christ

- *Complete* – perfect, fully mature

The process of sanctification in our lives

 Sanctify – kids, remember **John 17:17**

Sanctify them by the truth...

 Process of being made holy, perfect, mature,
 complete

Growing into Him who is our head

 Being changed into His image, becoming more holy

 Becoming more like Jesus

Will develop further when we get to **Colossians 2:10**

 Our goal is to be complete in Christ

 He is our everything

 He completes us in every area

 We are made whole, no missing parts/pieces

 We have been made full in Him

 There is nothing missing

In Christ we have complete salvation

 We have complete forgiveness

 We have complete victory

It is through our growing in the knowledge of Jesus, that we are made complete, mature, perfect

Through our union with the Messiah

By repenting and trusting in Him alone

Feeding on God's Word

2 Timothy 3:16-17

16 All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; 17 so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

- ...in Christ

The process is begun when we repent and trust **in** Jesus

The process continues as we grow **in** our knowledge of **Him**

It is centered in, focused on, dependent on the Messiah

Jesus alone

V. 22 – we were reconciled to be presented holy and blameless

How does this happen, how does this take place?

By our growing in the knowledge of the Messiah

By His power

Colossians 1:29

29 For this purpose also I labor, striving according to His power, which mightily works within me.

- ...for this purpose – to this end

Reference back to presenting everyone complete in Christ

This is Paul's "labor" – his toil

Paul is presenting the gospel so they can be

presented complete, perfect, mature in Christ

Work to the point of exhaustion

Agonizomai – our work agony comes from this

Working hard – sweating, work to point of exhaustion

All of us need to work hard

Would say we qualify after last week ☺

This word may have belonged to athletic images from this time

Athletics was a major part of the culture of the day
Gymnasiums were set up in all major cities for
people to “work out”

Striving involves a sustained effort , agonizing effort
A sustained, maximum effort for a specific goal
Much as an athlete daily works out
In order to perform better at his/her specific event

- *...striving according to His power, which mightily works within me.*

What is the source of Paul’s strength?

How is it he keeps going, doing what he does – proclaiming
the gospel...

No, it is not the energizer battery
Keeps on going and going
Better than that

His power – God’s power

1 Corinthians 15:10

*10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward
me did not prove vain; but I labored even more than all of them,
yet not I, but the grace of God with me.*

Who gets the credit for Paul’s work?

Is it Paul – nope...

It is God who is working in Paul

God gave Paul the strength to work hard

Conclusion:

Are we proclaiming, admonishing and teaching

Would say w/ VBS last week that was done

How are we doing at other times?

Are you complete in Christ?

1st question – are you *in Christ*?

Then, are you complete in Him – He is all we need

There is nothing else outside of Jesus, Messiah

Are you resting in His power?

Letting Him do the work in?

It is not our strength that we must work up

It is His strength, His power in us...
Are you resting in His power?

Benediction:

Hebrews 13:20-21

20 Now the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep through the blood of the eternal covenant, even Jesus our Lord, 21 equip you in every good thing to do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Sermon outline

08-18-13

Colossians 1:28-29

P _____, a _____, t _____

C _____ in Christ

By His p _____