

The CORE
A Discipleship Tool for FBC, Nowata

The CORE is designed to help you understand what a disciple of Jesus Christ looks like and then learn how to develop those characteristics in your life.

Vol. 1, No. 16

May 20, 2007

***Helping to Accomplish God's
Purposes in the Lives of Others***

As we celebrate the lives and ministries of our Senior Adults this week I thought it appropriate to focus on the Core Competency of Biblical Community. The statement of belief is this: *"I fellowship with other Christians to accomplish God's purposes in my life, others' lives, and in the world."*

Every single person in the body of Christ is important. We like to say we minister to people from the cradle to the grave. That really is our job as a church as it relates to fellow believers. Two of the 5 purposes of the church given to us in scripture are fellowship and ministry. Both of these must go beyond generational lines. The church today must see the need for and importance of ministry to all ages. That means one size does not fit all. We must commit ourselves to helping all accomplish God's purposes in their lives.

That means we must take seriously every step of our lives. At every point in the life of a believer there needs to be those who come alongside to support and minister to them.

We are going to look at several Psalms (along with some other passages) because King David had a lot to say about this journey we call life. As you study and meditate on the Word of God this week ask Him to give you understanding into how you can be a blessing and an encourager to those within our fellowship that are of a different age than you.

One thing is clear from scripture - we are all to learn from one another. That means a child can learn from an adult and vice versa. A young man/woman can learn from an older man/woman and vice versa. No matter where you are on life's journey, you are still around for a purpose. Part of that purpose is to assist those around you to accomplish God's purpose for them.

SECTION 1

Read Psalm 39:4-5

1. Why do you think David asked God to show him the "end of my life and the number of my days?" What purpose would it serve?

2. David's perspective on his life span seems to be very dim in this passage yet in other verses we see him enjoying life. How can knowing our lives are short in comparison to eternity help us live righteously?

Read Psalm 71:17-18

1. According to this verse how long had God taught David? Does that teaching ever stop?

2. What was David's goal in attaining the teaching of God? Is this a goal you would like to pursue? Why or why not?

Read Psalm 73:23-26

1. David had assurance that God was with him. How do you think he gained that assurance?

How can you gain that assurance?

2. How long will God guide you with counsel? How can we extend that counsel to others?

Are you extending it to others? If not, why not?

3. David seems to indicate how he keeps his focus. (vs.25) How can you emulate that focus?
4. Where does David's strength come from? How long will it last? Can you claim that for yourself?

SECTION 2

Read Psalm 92:12-15

1. This passage describes the righteous: write down all the verb phrases describing what the righteous will do. (There are 7.)

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.
- E.
- F.
- G.

The promises found in this passage are very encouraging. From the moment we begin our journey of faith as a child of God our ability to learn and grow never ends! The implications are huge. Next to each age group write some ways you can assist them in their journey.

Child

Teenager

Young adult

Median adult

Senior Adult

Read Psalm 119:111-112

1. What is the heritage David claims? When does he stop pursuing God's ways?

Read Proverbs 23:22-25

1. What does this say about honoring parents?

2. Why does Solomon tell us to buy truth; get wisdom, discipline and understanding?

How can you instill these virtues in your own life and in the lives of others you minister to?

3. What is the result of a righteous man or a wise son in relation to dad and mom?

Are you bringing those results to your parents? What needs to change in order for you to bring more of it to them?