

## 20/20 in 2010: Fixing Our Eyes on Jesus

### Hebrews 12:1-2

#### GETTING STARTED

What do you think it means to become an apprentice or disciple of someone? Can you think of a life situation where you have been an “apprentice” or student of someone else?

#### DIGGING IN

It is sometimes said that the good is the enemy of the best. In his sermon on Sunday, Pastor Jeff mentioned several common mistakes people make (often unintentionally) in selecting a goal their spiritual life:

1. Knowledge / doctrine is the goal
2. Experience / emotion is the goal
3. Cause / service is the goal
4. Religion / ritual is the goal
5. Behavior / morality is the goal

How are each of the above insufficient as a goal of the spiritual life?

Dallas Willard describes being a disciple of Jesus this way: “I am with Jesus in order to learn from Jesus how to be like Jesus.” The goal of being a disciple/learner/apprentice/follower of Jesus is to learn to believe what Jesus believes, think what Jesus thinks, love what Jesus loves, and do what Jesus does—a disciple of Jesus wants to be just like Jesus. What it would mean for you to be a disciple of Jesus?

#### LIVING IT OUT

Pastor Jeff listed three “best practices” for keeping your eyes fixed on Jesus as his disciple. The first was: ***Dwell deeply in God’s Word***. Read John 8:31-32. What condition does Jesus put on his statement that “you shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free”? What does it mean to “abide (live, dwell) in Jesus’ Word”?

Each of us is unique in terms of our life demands, schedule, personality, etc. Do you have a particular time or place to read the Bible on a regular basis? What do you find works best for you?

Do you have a plan for reading the Bible this year? If so, what is your plan? If not, what would keep you from committing to read your Bible this year?

Whether you choose to read select books of the Bible, read the New Testament, or read the entire Bible this year, it is good to have a plan. [If you want a plan, [www.esv.org/biblereadingplans](http://www.esv.org/biblereadingplans) is a great resource for finding a plan that works for you.]

The second “best practice” was: ***Seek God in your prayers***. How is it possible to spend time in prayer *without* seeking God? What does it mean to you to “seek God in prayer”?

What can we learn about the importance of prayer from Jesus example in Mark 1:35?

The 3<sup>rd</sup> practice we talked about was: ***Relate authentically and accountably with other followers of Jesus***. What would have to change for this small group to relate *more* authentically and *more* accountably in 2010?

These sermon notes are produced each week for further study and discussion in our small groups. If you are interested in joining a small group, please contact Leslie Ann Yell at [smallgroups@chathamchurch.org](mailto:smallgroups@chathamchurch.org) or 545-9589.