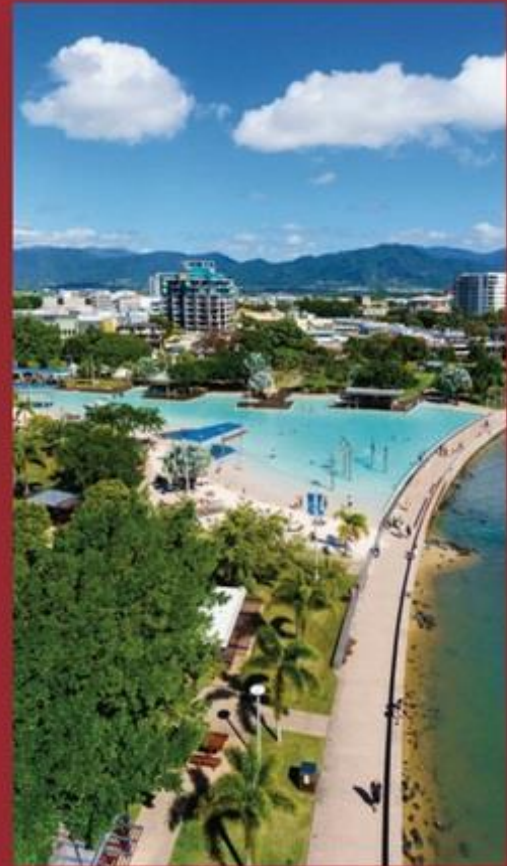


EDMUND & ANN CHAN

SESSION OUTLINES

FOR MAIN SESSIONS AND ELECTIVES



THE HARVEST IS PLENTIFUL

(Luke 10:1-19)

Rev Edmund Chan

Introduction

1. In Luke 10:2, Jesus said something very important!

2. Note the Four Big Surprises -

A. SURPRISE OF AN UNEXPECTED CRISIS

"The harvest is plentiful, the labourers are few..." (v.2)

B. SURPRISE OF AN UNEXPECTED SOLUTION

"Pray that the Lord of the harvest will send forth labourers into His harvest." (v.2-3)

C. SURPRISE OF AN UNEXPECTED INSTRUCTION

"Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road." (v.4)

D. SURPRISE OF AN UNEXPECTED RESOURCE

'Behold I have given you authority.' (v.19)

Conclusion. Labourers Unto The Harvest!!

RADICAL DISCIPLESHIP

(Galatians 2:20)

Rev Edmund Chan

Introduction

1. The Church is Losing Ground.....

2. The Need for Radical Discipleship (Gal 2:20) -
Paul highlights two fundamental paradigm shifts for us -

A. FROM BEING COMMITTED CHRISTIANS TO BEING CRUCIFIED ONES

"I have been crucified with Christ....."

B. FROM WHAT WE DO FOR GOD TO WHAT GOD HAS DONE FOR US

"...who loved us and gave Himself for us."

Conclusion. Returning to A CHRIST-CENTERED Discipleship today!

FOUNDATION OF YOUR LIFE

[Matthew 7: 24-27]

Rev Edmund

Chan

Introduction

1. A PARABLE OF CONTRASTS
2. To appreciate the Contrasts, first note the Similarities

3 CRITICAL PARADIGM SHIFTS

1. FROM BEAUTIFYING THE FAÇADE TO BUILDING THE FOUNDATION

“...a wise man and a foolish man...” Matt 7:24, 26

2. FROM ‘KNOWING’ THE WORD TO DOING THE WORD

“...who hears these words of Mine and put them into practice.” Matt 7:24

3. FROM SEEKING A STORM-FREE LIFE TO HAVING A STORM-PROOF LIFE

“...it did not fall because it had its foundation on the rock.” Matt 7:25

Conclusion.

- WHAT IS THE FOUNDATION OF YOUR LIFE?
- UPON WHAT ARE YOU BUILDING?

LIVING THE INTENTIONAL LIFE

(Ephesians 5:15-18)

Rev Edmund Chan

Introduction

1. Are you ready for a short quiz?
A Word-Association Exercise...

Four Keys to Living the Intentional Life -

A. EXAMINING YOUR LIFE

"Be careful how you walk..." (v.15)

B. REDEEMING YOUR TIME

"Making the most of every opportunity" (v.16)

C. DETERMINING YOUR PURPOSE

"Understand what the will of the Lord is" (v.17)

D. EMBRACING YOUR PRIORITY

"Be filled with the Spirit" (v.18)

Conclusion. Don't Waste the Rest of Your Life! Be Intentional...!!

THE INNER LIFE OF THE DISCIPLE
Repairing The Past
Ps Ann Chan

Introduction

Our paths in our discipleship Journey: the ups and downs

1. The Symptoms:

2. The Roots:

A. FOUR ARENAS OF OUR PAST THAT NEED GOD’S HEALING

1. PRIMAL WOUNDS OF THE HEART:

2. CYNICISM OF THE MIND:

3. PARALYSIS OF THE WILL:

4. OVERCROWDING OF THE SOUL:

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B. REPAIRING OUR PAST MEANS BRINGING US:

I. OUT OF OUR ASHES

a. Facing our Private Pain

b. Crossing that “Bridges” of Life

II. OUT OF OUR COMFORT ZONE

a. A Place of Faith instead of Insecurity

b. A Place of Growth instead of Stagnation

III. OUT OF OUR DARKNESS

a. Accepting the Valley Experiences

b. Learning from the Valley Experiences

IV. OUT OF OUR PREJUDICES

a. Loving People in the Lord

b. Discipling God’s People with Skillful Hands

Conclusion: Dying to self that we may live in the Lord!

THE INNER LIFE OF THE DISCIPLE
The Directed Life
Ps Ann Chan

Introduction

The State of the Church

The State of the Soul

A. THE IMPORTANCE OF SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

1. Quotes and Definitions:

“... the art of listening carried out in the context of a trusting relationship. It is when one person is trained to be a competent guide who then ‘companions’ another person, listening to that person’s life story with an ear for the movement of the Holy, of the Divine.”

-Rev Jeffrey S Gaines, Presbyterian, USA

“... is a voluntary relationship between a person who seeks to grow in the Christian life and a director. The latter is not a counselor or a therapist. Rather, he or she is a mature Christian who helps the directee both to discern what the Holy Spirit is doing and saying and to act that discernment, drawing nearer to God in Christ.

-Chris Armstrong and Steve Getz, Christianity Today

2018 Queensland Baptist Cairns Convention – Elective 2 – Continued

“... is the process of helping every believer realize her or his own soul freedom and to help everyone accept the responsibility of developing a relationship to God through Jesus Christ while in community. Some spiritual guidance practices that strengthen that relationship include spoken and extemporaneous prayer in formal and informal worship; participation in challenging learning communities; dialogue on Scripture, faith practice, and mission; personal study and interpretation of Scripture; silence, meditation and use of the labyrinth in some associated churches.”

-Rev Catherine Fransson, Seattle First Baptist Church

2. Spiritual formation in contemporary Christianity

3. The importance of spiritual direction for today

a) Everyone needs a _____

b) Everyone needs a _____

c) Everyone needs a _____

B. THE PRINCIPLES OF SPIRITUAL DIRECTION:

1. The _____ must be sound.

“A good spiritual director is skilled at listening for unconscious theology, attending to the directees’ internal movements, and helping the directee to discern the invitations of the Holy Spirit.”

Julie Barrios

2. The _____ must be worthy.

“... the wise fish represents a spiritual director — or that deepest part of a human being that is in touch with the omnipresence of God ... the search is for life in His Kingdom ...”

-Gary W Moon

3. The _____ must be clear.

“I, too am made for him, solely for him. He is alone my essential end, my total end; he is the entire reason of my existence, the sole purpose of my life. I have no other raison d’être than his glory.”

-Joseph Tissot (ed) of *The Interior Life*

4. The _____ must be managed.

“... in attempting to sort out the description of an ideal spiritual director, to consider two axes: level of authority and orientations ...”

-Gary W Moon

C. THE PRACTICE OF SPIRITUAL DIRECTION:

1. Direct the heart to _____ God.

“The Reason for loving God is God Himself. The measure for such love is to love without measure.”

-Bernard of Clairvaux in *On Loving God*, (1090–1153)

2. Direct the spirit to _____ God.

“God ... can pick us up, draw us to himself, pull us towards him whenever his mercy moves him to compassion ... our Creator, urges us to love him, affords a secret intimation that we are his.”

St Francis of Sales

3. Direct the mind to _____ God.

“... Spiritual Direction is ultimately concerned with spiritual realities and their basis in theology, not psychological problems ...”

-Simon Chan in *Spiritual Theology*

4. Direct the will to _____ to God.

“Give place, then, to Christ, but deny entrance to all others, for when you have Christ you are rich and He is sufficient for you. He will provide for you. He will supply your every want, so that you need not trust in frail, changeable men. Christ remains forever, standing firmly with us to the end.”

-Thomas Kempis in *The Imitation of Christ*

“We are created to will what God wills, to know what he knows, to love what he loves. Sin is the will to do what God does not will, to know what God does not (know), to love what God does not love.”

-Thomas Merton

5. Direct the hands to _____ God.

“... spiritual guidance ... can help people to accept life changes, even painful ones, as doors opening on to new life: to becoming more serving, more honest, more humble, more alive ...”

-Carolyn Gratton

D. CONCLUSION: THE DIRECTED LIFE:

“He became what we are that he might make us what he is.”

-St Athanasius of Alexandria

“Your Beloved is such that He will not accept what belongs to another — He wants your heart for Himself alone, to be enthroned therein as King in His own right. If you but knew how to free yourself entirely from all creatures, Jesus would gladly dwell within you.”

-Thomas Kempis in *The Imitation of Christ*

THE ANCIENT PATHS

(Jeremiah 6:16)

Rev Edmund Chan

Introduction

1. The Crisis of a Discipleship Deficit in the Church...
2. Three Key Considerations for Discipleship Today -

A. BEWARE OF BUSYNESS WITHOUT STILLNESS

“Stand by the roads, and look ...”

B. BEWARE OF KNOWLEDGE WITHOUT WISDOM

“Ask for the ancient paths...”

C. BEWARE OF THOUGHT WITHOUT ACTION

“... and walk in it...”

Conclusion. When you are at a cross-road in your life, go back to the CROSS-Road!!

Reflection Questions

1. Busyness is a common problem. Stillness is a common neglect. Why is cultivating stillness in the midst of busyness important? How can we do so?

2. We live in a world with a surplus of knowledge and a deficit of wisdom. How can we cultivate WISDOM in daily living?

3. “The failure of discipleship lies not in the lack of KNOWING but in the lack of DOING.” - Do you agree or disagree? Why? How can we grow in BOTH Knowing and Doing?