

CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST DALTON, GA



Mindful LIVING

INTENTIONALITY & THE EARLY CHURCH

RELATIONSHIPS W/ MEANING

JANUARY 19, 2025

LOVE GOD ■ LOVE OTHERS ■ MAKE DISCIPLES

INTENTIONALITY & THE EARLY CHURCH

RELATIONSHIPS W/ MEANING

YOU NEED TO MAKE CHANGES

WHAT SIMON SAW: an opportunity to use Christianity for his own personal gain (Ac. 8:18-19; cp. 5:1-11).

WHAT PETER SAW: a new Christian with idolatry in his heart and selfish motives (Ac. 8:20-23; Deut. 29:18; Jas. 3:14-15).

WHAT SIMON SAID: Simon asked Peter to pray for him so he didn't face terrible consequences (Ac. 8:24; Jas. 5:16).

WHAT WE LEARN: we need Christians who are willing to speak lovingly and plainly when we say and do things contrary to God's will (Mt. 7:1-5; 1 Cor. 5:1-11; Rom. 16:17-18).

THIS MAN HAS CHANGED

WHAT SAUL DID: sought refuge from the church in Jerusalem at a difficult time (Ac. 9:1-2, 23-26a; Gal. 1:18-19).

WHAT THE DISCIPLES DID: they did not believe Saul was a genuine Christian and rejected his request to join them (Ac. 9:26b; cp. 22:4-5, 17-22).

WHAT BARNABAS DID: befriended and defended Saul based upon the evidence of a changed life (Ac. 9:27; Gal. 6:1-5).

WHAT WE LEARN: we need Christians who are willing to speak on our behalf and vouch for our genuine repentance and transformation (Ac. 9:27; 2 Cor. 7:8-12).

REFLECTION & ACTION Q^s

SERIES STATEMENT

"WHAT WAS FUNDAMENTAL FOR THE EARLY CHURCH HAS BECOME SUPPLEMENTAL FOR THE MODERN CHURCH"

Reflection: This lesson argued that Christians need other Christians who are willing to call out sinful thoughts and motives while patiently helping one another bear fruits of repentance. Do you think the church is more eager to call out the sins of the world than it is to address sinful thoughts and actions among its members? Explain.

MESSAGE STATEMENT

"THOSE IN CHRIST MUST STOP SHOOTING THEIR WOUNDED AND START WALKING WITH THEM"

Reflection: How have I seen other Christians respond to those struggling with sin or spiritual weakness? Has anyone ever corrected me for living in a way contrary to the gospel? What are some passages that address how we should respond to sin and weakness in others?

Action: Who in my life needs encouragement or support as they work to bear fruits of repentance? How can I walk alongside them this week? Be specific.

Scripture READING

ACTS 8:18-24

“AND WHEN SIMON SAW THAT THROUGH THE LAYING ON OF THE APOSTLES’ HANDS THE HOLY SPIRIT WAS GIVEN, HE OFFERED THEM MONEY, SAYING, “GIVE ME THIS POWER ALSO, THAT ANYONE ON WHOM I LAY HANDS MAY RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT.” BUT PETER SAID TO HIM, “YOUR MONEY PERISH WITH YOU, BECAUSE YOU THOUGHT THAT THE GIFT OF GOD COULD BE PURCHASED WITH MONEY! YOU HAVE NEITHER PART NOR PORTION IN THIS MATTER, FOR YOUR HEART IS NOT RIGHT IN THE SIGHT OF GOD. REPENT THEREFORE OF THIS YOUR WICKEDNESS, AND PRAY GOD IF PERHAPS THE THOUGHT OF YOUR HEART MAY BE FORGIVEN YOU. FOR I SEE THAT YOU ARE POISONED BY BITTERNESS AND BOUND BY INIQUITY.” THEN SIMON ANSWERED AND SAID, “PRAY TO THE LORD FOR ME, THAT NONE OF THE THINGS WHICH YOU HAVE SPOKEN MAY COME UPON ME.”” (ACTS 8:18-24, NKJV)



VISIT OUR WEBSITE: CCOCDALTON.ORG

515 N TIBBS RD ■ DALTON, GA ■ 706.278.8051