[Bruce Chick] January 18, 2015

"Gospel Centered ... What Difference Will it Make?"

XII. What Difference Will it Make?

A) The Gospel Brings Freedom

• Freedom from the Opinions of Others Galatians 5:1

• Freedom from the Expectations of Others

"To be right with God the judge is a great thing, but to be loved and cared for by God the Father is greater!" J I Packer Isaiah 62:4-5

• Freedom from Performance Treadmill

2 Corinthians 5:21; Gal 4:6

• Freedom to Enjoy

John 15:15

"Righteousness is not man's gift to God but God's gift to man" Martin Luther

• Freedom from Fear

1 Corinthians 15:54-55; Philippians 4:19; Romans 8:15

- Freedom to Fail
- Freedom from Self-love

John 8:36; 2 Corinthians 3:16-17

B) Change/ Growth [Galatians 5:13]

- 1) The Gospel Allows Us to Admit our Sins
- 2) The Gospel Reminds Us our sins are *ALREADY* Forgiven

Colossians 1:13-14

3) The Gospel Gives Us the Power to Overcome Sin

Romans 6:14; Hebrews 12:14; Colossians 1:28-29, 3:5



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"When I attended Bible college, I observed people who followed the rules and missed God, and people who broke the rules and missed God. What burdens me, though, is that group of people who still believe that they missed God because they broke the rules. They never heard the melody of the gospel of grace." Philip Yancy, What's so Amazing About Grace?, p. 209.

"Religion has made us obsessive almost beyond endurance. Jesus invited us to a dance ... and we've turned it into a march of soldiers, always checking to see if we're doing it right and are in step and in line with the other soldiers. We know a dance would be more fun, but we believe we must go through hell to get to heaven, so we keep marching." Steve Brown, Scandalous Freedom, p.82.

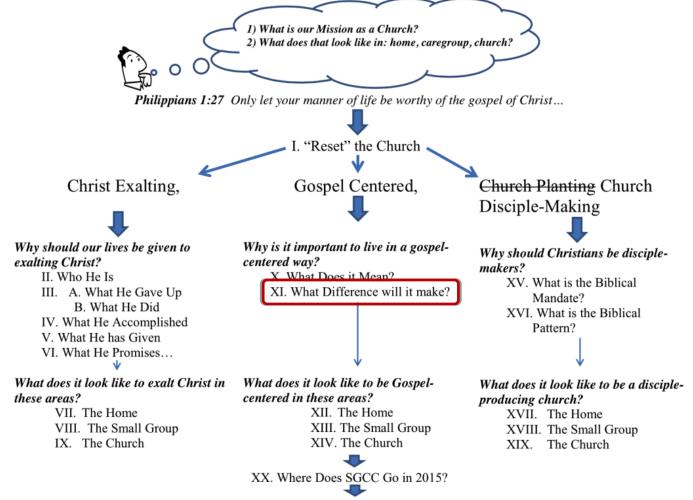
"He wants them to learn to walk and must therefore take away His hand; and if only the will to walk is really there He is pleased even with their stumbles. Do not be deceived, Wormwood. Our cause is never more in danger than when a human, no longer desiring, but still intending, to do our Enemy's will, looks round upon a universe from which every trace of Him seems to have vanished, and asks why he has been forsaken, and still obeys." CS Lewis, The Screwtape Letters.

"The only person who can afford to be honest about his sin is the person who believes the gospel." Jerry Bridges

"On the contrary, nothing so motivates us to deal with sin in our lives as does the understanding and application of the two truths that our sins are forgiven and the dominion of sin is broken because of our union with Christ." Jerry Bridges, The Discipline of Grace



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Philippians 1:27 Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ...