

Teaching Faithful Men

"Freedom is never more than one generation from extinction," Ronald Reagan. The same is true for spiritual freedom. Jesus said, "You shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free," John 8:32. But how shall we know the truth, one might ask. The answer is surprisingly simple in Romans 10:14-17

How then are they to call on Him in whom they have not believed? How are they to believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how are they to hear without a preacher? But how are they to preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news of good things!" However, they did not all heed the good news; for Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our report?" So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

Did you catch it? Some are sent to preach. Those sent bring the good news of Jesus to others. Some are senders, some are the sent. No wonder Paul told Timothy to, "preach the word." No wonder Paul was, "...not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek," Romans 1:16.

But there is one step in the middle that all congregations should be seeking to take. That very necessary step is found in II Timothy 2:2, "The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful people who will be able to teach others also." Timothy is preaching in the church at Ephesus. Part of the job at hand was to teach others to do the same thing Timothy is doing - preaching the word (see II Timothy 4:1-4). Without proper preparation and preaching, false doctrine will pull God's people away from Him.

There are many ways to teach others to teach. In today's world one of the deepest and most efficient ways is to send faithful men to a biblical school that specializes in training preachers. Today we have a special blessing in that Kyle Click (and his family) will be attending the Bear Valley Bible Institute of Denver. Kyle, who is preaching here today, along with his family, will be moving to Denver in two weeks. We have the wonderful opportunity, individually and as a group, to help "send" him to be trained so that he will be "able to teach others also."

It has been a great blessing to have the Click families (both of them) with us this year. Our thoughts and our prayers go with them during this time of transition and training that are both biblical and vital for those who plan to preach Jesus to the world.

May God be with you in your move and in your training. We love you all!

Ray Wallace