Five Truths for a Firm Foundation

We have been studying the Absolute Truths of Christianity.

One: (Jn 14:6) One Way to Live.

One Truth to Live by. One Life worth Living.

Two: (Matt 22:37-39) 2 Commandments of Christ

Three: (Rom 1-2) 3 Dedications/Victorious Christian

Four: (Gal 2:20-21) 4 R's of Reformed to Christ.

All these are the Bedrock of our Justification & Sanctification in Christ!

<u>Illus</u>: My Dad build Houses. Modular Homes. Dig down & lay the foundation upon the solid ground.

If the Foundation is not Firm, the house will shift & the walls will crack.

He would use FORMS to shape the Concrete into a foundation to build the house upon.

Our lives are build daily upon the Bedrock of Jesus. We also have FORMS that determine the Shape of our Foundation which we build upon,

Form: A Mold or something that gives shape
Firm: Established; unyielding to pressure
Foundation: A basis for supporting a structure

<u>Follow: Who We Follow Determines our Destination:</u> (Lk 6:39-40)

Can the blind lead the blind? (Rhetorical Question)

shall they not both fall into the ditch? (Who you follow determines your destination)

40 The disciple (The Student/one following) is not above his master: (Teacher, One being Followed) but every one that is perfect (Properly Trained) shall be as his master. (Will Become like their Teacher)

We Become like the person we follow:

Buddy System fails: That person is just as blind as you!

What advice can one 13yr old boy offer another 13yr old about girls? (Talk about the Blind leaning the Blind!)

Everybody is following somebody.

(Ps 1:1) Who Not to Follow!

Blessed (Happy, Full)

is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, (Does not take advice from anyone who does not love God)

nor standeth in the way of sinners, (Does not engage in the entertainment of those who do wrong)

nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

(Does not assume the position of Critical people)

We will be happy we choose not to follow after the counsel of the ungodly, if we choose not to spend time around the world the systems of entertainment, and if we choose not to be influenced by negative people.

The best type of teachers to follow are those that love God, who are not worldly in their lifestyles, and who will encourage, buildup, and edify you and others.

All of us are a product of the Teachers we have chosen. If we choose God's appointed "Masters"/Teachers, God will lead us through them to make good decisions int life.

Even of they are good people, but not following God's authority, they are "Blind". (2 Pet 1:9)

w/o God's direction we and they will both fall in the ditch.

3 Key Decisions in Life God uses Teachers to advise us in. Choosing to Walk with God & how to develop that Walk. Choosing a Mate & how to develop that Relationship. Choosing a Career & how to develop ourselves for It.

God has a career plan for you, & so does Satan. God has a chosen Mate chosen for you & so does Satan.

Usually we are looking for Teachers to Follow, who typically tell us what we want to hear.

Promote my feelings over God's feelings. Promote my thinking over God's thinking. Promote my desires over God's desires.

You will find these teachers of Ungodly Counsel in Worldly people, Wrong Entertainment, & people who are critical of God's Word.

All these will lead us into the Ditch.

(Luke 6:40) *The disciple is not above his master:* Not Above, but Under there authority.

but every one that is perfect shall be as his master.

As we allow them to teach us by submitting to their Authority, we will be *Perfect* or "Fully Formed" & be a teacher someday.

B/C Everybody has someone following them. (2 Tim 2:2)

Focus: What we fix our attention on Determines our Effectiveness & our Vision of others: (Luke 6:41-42) Our Flesh wants us to Focus on the perceived spiritual needs & Weaknesses of others, rather than Focussing on Our Spiritual Needs & Weaknesses.

Hypocrite: Means an Actor.

We are acting like We are OK & able to assist others b/c it is less taxing on our Pride than addressing our flaws.

(Rom 2:21, 24) *Hypocrisy is ignoring our sin and judging others.*

Vs 21 Preachers/Teachers who don't follow their own advise *Like a Dr. who Smokes & tells you to change your lifestyle.*

Vs 24: Unbelievers speak evil of God b/c of hypocrisy of teachers & Preachers.

(Prov 20:6-7) Walk versus Talk *There are talkers but very few walkers.* Our integrity directly affects the level of contentment of those that follow us.

(Luke 18:10-14) Self Justification versus God's standard of Justification.

(Vs 10-12) The Teacher was careful to proclaim what He Does not do that is wrong & what He does do that is right.

BUT, he does not mention what He DOES do that is wrong.

(Vs 13-14) Justified ~ Conformed to the Law. "Sinner" was more conformed to the Law that the "Teacher" B/c his focus was on what He did that was wrong, rather than what he did that was right or what others have done wrong.

David & Bathsheba (2 Sam 12:1-7) Women caught in Adultery (John 8:3-11)

Jesus exposed their sin by writing them in the sand. (Gal 6:1*-5) Restoration is the Key. (Church Discipline)

(2 Cor 10:12) We become unwise when we compare ourselves to others.

We are only to compare ourselves to Christ.

<u>Fruitfulness</u>: Our Values & Motives Determines the Outcome & Result of our Lives:

(Luke 6:43-45)

Our Fruit reveals our Values.

(Col 3:2) Our Treasure reflects our Affections (Gal 5:22-23) Fruits of the Spirit (John 15:8) Our life in Christ should bring others to Christ. (Phil 2:4) Almost a contradiction to the last point of minding our own back yard 1st.

It's about us taking on the Values of God. To Him, it's all about souls.

Your's First: Obey the Gospel
Other's Second: Spread the Gospel

<u>Fulfill God's Requests</u>: (Luke 6:46) *Obedience to God*. It is the most Fundamental element of living the Abundant Christian Life!

How can we honestly say He is Real & Disobey? How can we claim to be a Christian & Disobey?

(John 16:7-14) *The Comforter*The Holy Spirit comes INTO us. (Salvation)
The Holy Spirit comes UPON us. (Sanctification)

God communicates His Truth to us through His..

Teachers/Authorities/Counselors

Word, Prayer, Leadings & Convictions of the Spirit.

The Holy Spirit Communicates this truth by Conviction which now makes us Uncomfortable.

While being uncomfortable because of His Conviction of our failure to obey, We now ask God for His help in fulfilling His request of us.

God sends the Power of the Holy Spirit upon us to make us comfortable doing the thing He is requesting that makes us Uncomfortable.

The Job of the Holy Spirit indwelling us is to make us Uncomfortable to the error that is in our lives.

The Job of the influence of the Holy Spirit upon us is to give us the power to be comfortable with His direction so that we may fulfill the leading of the Indwelling Holy Spirit in correcting that error. When We say No to the conviction No to the positions of being uncomfortable We then weaken the Spirit's influence over our soul.

When we reject His leadings, we will eventually reject His Feeding, which staves off the Holy Spirit's ability to communicate to us.

We will not listen to our preachers and teachers,
We will not seek counsel,
We will not read and try to understand
We will let our prayer life become a grocery list & stop all
together.

All Because of our unwillingness to be uncomfortable. If God intended for us to be comfortable, He would not have sent one to Comfort us!

If you are always comfortable serving God, then you are doing it in the power of your flesh. (Rom 8:5)

Founded upon Christ:

(Luke 6:47-49) *It all wrests on the Foundation*. What is the Foundation of Our Lives/Existence? What is the Point? Self Gratification? Which is Idolatry

If we are FOUNDED on the right foundation, then we will have a supernatural desire to FOLLOW the right people, FOCUS on our own spiritual needs, bear FRUIT that glorifies God, and to FULFILL God's Request for obedience.

The Foundation on which you place your forms will produce a structure that is capable of withstanding adversity. (1 Cor 3:11-17)

Vs 16 We want to be a structure of value which God may dwell in.

Here is How!!!!

(Luke 6:47a) "Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings, and doeth them..."

(Luke 6:49) is the opposite side of the story...

The sane trials and storms comes to everyone.

The difference between the two men.

The first "Cometh, hearth, doeth..."

The second "heareth & doeth not..."
Build after the rudiments of the world.
It fell, "and great was the fall of it"

A house for God must be build within before it is ever build without.

Build within by using the right foundation.

Build within by fulfilling the requests of the Holy Spirit.

Build within by producing fruit.

Build within by focussing on our flaws.

Build within by following the right people.

This is the Temple God wants to Dwell In.