## "The Means of Grace: Discipleship, Fellowship, and Service" Acts 2:41-47; John 15:1-11

"The *Means of Grace* are the *lifeblood* of sanctification and the believers *chief resource* in the *pursuit* of holiness." (Jerry Wragg)

- What is DISCIPLESHIP? It is the spiritual growth that occurs in a Christian's life beginning at justification and ending at glorification, by the means of grace, by the power of the Holy Spirit, in accordance with God's Word.
- What is FELLOWSHIP? It is a specific grace given to Christians through their unification with Christ and
  one another that expresses itself in joyful, generous, loving service towards one another for our spiritual
  good, for God's glory.
- What is the ultimate goal of DISCIPLESHIP and FELLOWSHIP?
  - The aim is to bring people to Christ and to bring them to spiritual maturity...."Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ." (Colossians 1:28; cf. Acts 14:21-23)
- What are some means to accomplish this task?
  - o Speech that builds up and gives grace to those who hear it (Ephesians 4:29).
  - Church attendance with an intentionality in stirring up one another to love and do good works and intentional encouragement (Hebrews 10:24-25).
  - Being kind and tenderhearted toward each other, and gladly forgiving each other (Ephesians 4:32).
  - Meeting our brothers and sisters physical needs when they are going through difficult times
     (1 John 3:16-18).
  - Using our gifts to serve one another (1 Peter 4:10).
  - Admonish the idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, and be patient with all (1 Thessalonians 5:14).
- The mentality of Christian DISCIPLESHIP and FELLOWSHIP:
  - "By this My Father is glorified, that you BEAR MUCH FRUIT and so prove to be My disciples."
     (John 15:8)
  - "The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever SOWS BOUNTIFULLY will also REAP BOUNTIFULLY. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may ABOUND IN EVERY GOOD WORK." (2 Corinthians 9:6,8)
  - "And may the Lord make you INCREASE and ABOUND in love for one another and for all, as we do for you." (1 Thessalonians 3:12)
  - "....whoever SERVES, as one who SERVES by the strength that God supplies in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ...." (1 Peter 4:11b)

## **Announcements:**

- ★HEALTHTREE MOVES FOR MYELOMA: We are putting together a team to participate in the 5K/1 M Walk happening in ONE month, on Saturday, June 3rd at Wolfe Park in Columbus, Ohio. If you are interested in participating in this, please see the board on the back table for more information, or see Joel Decker for any questions you may have. To register for the event, you will need to go online and register with Team Legacy.
- ★LADIES SPRING BRUNCH: Ladies, we are having a Spring Brunch <u>THIS</u> Saturday, May 6th, at 10am, at Jen and Breanna's house (981 Lawnview Avenue). There is a sign-up list on the table in the entryway, please sign-up to bring something to the Spring Brunch. All of the ladies are invited to join us for this time of fellowship together. Please consider carpooling, since parking is limited!
- ★TRANSMISSION OF SCRIPTURE: We will be starting a new Sunday Teaching Class on Sunday, May 21st. This class will be on the transmission of Scripture how we got the Bible. It will be every Sunday, from 4-5pm, in the Fellowship Hall. This is a 6 week class that will be taught by Pastor Jeremey. There is a sign-up list on the table in the entryway, if you are interested in participating in this class, please sign-up!
- ★FELLOWSHIP DINNER: We are having a Fellowship Dinner <u>THIS</u> Sunday, May 7th, immediately following the worship service. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the entryway, please sign-up to bring something to the dinner. EVERYONE is invited to stay to enjoy the dinner and fellowship with us.