

Sermon Text Discussion Notes 08/02/2020

2 Corinthians 1:12-23 –“Faithfulness” by Drew Hunter

Overview

This message is the tenth in our series on gospel freedom and the fruit of the Spirit. This week’s sermon is focused on faithfulness as a fruit of the Spirit as depicted in 2 Corinthians 1.

This text was outlined in the following way:

- I. Paul’s Faithfulness (v12-18)
- II. God’s Faithfulness (v19-22)
- III. Our Faithfulness

Paul says that he is faithful because God is faithful. This is why it’s so important that we (as Christians) begin to be faithful as we are made like Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Quotations

“What is faithfulness? Faithfulness is being true to your word and utterly reliable. You are trustworthy—you say what is true and you do what you say.”-*Drew Hunter*

“I was recently reading a helpful book on racial issues in America. In the end, the author’s primary application was this: we need what he calls ‘active listening.’ And he means essentially this: find someone you disagree with, have a meal with them, listen to them, understand their perspective, if they are willing to listen to you, share your perspective. Essentially: respectful, humble, gentle conversation. I read that and thought: He’s essentially saying, ‘What we need right now is the fruit of the Spirit in our conversations.’” -*Drew Hunter*

Understanding & Application

- 1) Drew listed a few examples in scripture where God was faithful to his promises. What are of a few more that quickly come to mind?
- 2) Can you name situations in your life where you’ve experienced God’s faithfulness? Share them with a friend or your small group.
- 3) Have you come across a situation where the worst was assumed of a leader (like Paul in this time with the Corinthian church) and they needed to defend themselves against unfair assumptions and accusations made? Why is this not in keeping with the fruit of the Spirit? How would this situation have been different if everyone involved chose to assume the best and seek the truth?
- 4) Do you know a brother or sister in Christ who is struggling right now and may need a faithful friend to come alongside them? Think of some ways you can serve and encourage them.
- 5) The last point of the sermon outline focuses on our faithfulness. Drew listed several examples of areas where we should see our faithfulness (as Christian leaders, vocation, marriage or singleness, parenting, within our church, in our culture). Did you feel the prompting of the Holy Spirit toward more faithfulness in one or several of these areas? Spend some time in prayer this week for the Lord to lead you to better reflect him in these areas.