

Notes and Quotes

Jn 20:21 - ²¹ Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, **I am sending you.**

Acts 1.8 - ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and **you will be my witnesses** in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Jn15.1-8 - "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ² He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. ³ You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. ⁵ "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. ⁸ This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples... ¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to **go and bear fruit**—fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.

2 Cor 3:18 - ¹⁸ And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, **are being transformed into the same image** from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

Eph 4:24 - ²² You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to *put off your old self*, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³ to be made new in the attitude of your minds; ²⁴ and to *put on the new self*, **created to be like God** in true righteousness and holiness.

2 Pet 1:4- ⁴ Thus he has given us, through these things, his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may escape from the corruption that is in the world because of lust, and may **become participants of the divine nature.**

Now, it is important to distinguish "**training**" from "**trying**." I might *try* very hard to win 'a marathon race, but if I have not *trained*, I will not even finish, not to mention win. Without training, the resources simply are not in my muscles, they are not in the ingrained habit structures of my body. On the day of the race, no amount of trying will make up for the failure to train. It is the training that will enable me to participate effectively in the race. The same is true in the spiritual life. Training builds interior habits within us, "holy habits." – Richard Foster

What matters (most in life) is not that I should succeed, but that God should be honored - Leslie Newbiggin

Imago Dei Christian Community

Mission - The proclamation, demonstration, and celebration of God and His kingdom.

We commit ourselves to the following values:

We value being a **missional church** (Jn 20:21; Acts 1:8), rather than an **attractional church**.

Spirituality

- We value intimacy with and passion for our God. We seek to love Him with all our heart, soul, mind and strength and to see His life permeate every aspect of our lives. All that we will do or become must flow from our union with God, viz. our living from the Vine (Jn 15:1-9).
- We value the pursuit of becoming like Christ in our purpose, character, and actions. More of Christ in us will mean more of His kingdom through us. Moreover, we recognize that being like Christ doesn't just make us more spiritual - it makes us most human. Thus, we are committed to exercising and incorporating the contemplative practices and beliefs of our Christian heritage on a regular and frequent basis so that Christ may be formed in us. (2 Cor. 3:18; Eph. 4:24; 2 Peter 1:4)
- We are committed to experiencing and ministering in the fullness of Christ, including all the spiritual gifts God gives our church. This includes: praying for physical, emotional, and relational healing; receiving and sharing specific and sometimes personally addressed messages from God to others or the church; receiving supernatural measures of God's character such as faith, hope, love, joy, peace, patience, etc. These gifts and manifestations of the Spirit are to be implemented as they are appropriate for building up the body and serving the community (Rom. 12; 1 Cor. 12-14)
- We are committed to the priority of worship as God's Kingdom people. Therefore, we agree with A. W. Tozer when he states: *We're here to be worshippers first and workers only second. ... God meant that a convert should learn to be a worshipper, and after that learn to be a worker... (It is out of enraptured, admiring, adoring, worshipping souls, then, God does His work. The work done by a worshipper will have eternity in it.*

Community

Mission

Sunday Circle Questions
(Feel free to change these as you like)

In your own words - without looking at any handouts - what would you say to someone who asked what IDCC was all about?

- What do you like / DIS-like about IDCC's values?
- Where do they hit the mark for you? Where do they miss?

How can we change for the better in the values we talked about today? What concrete measures should we take to live out these values in more tangible and impactful terms?

What do you think of the comparison between the three different types of churches?

- How was it helpful?
- What do you think about Steve's comment that we should not see the other 'rings' as enemies or of no value to our missional 'ring'?
- How do the other 'rings' give us wisdom for the future? How may they end up hindering us?

What other comments do you wish to make?

For home: Memorize and meditate on **John 15:8**