

Diving Deeper into Discipleship

April 18, 2021 | Pastor Pete Fowler

Built Together

Sermon Reflection Questions:

- Thank God for those who faithfully paved the way for us. This week, reach out personally to someone who made a contribution to your decision to join the household of God.
- Is your life being built on the foundational cornerstone of Christ?
- Ask God to change our hearts, and raise up leaders, so that the beauty of "diversity within unity" that the Holy Spirit intends can be realized.
- As a dwelling place of the Spirit of God, being built together by His power and wisdom, where do you sense God leading our church in the next year? The next decade?

Devotional Reading and Reflection

- **Exodus 40:34-38** | Do you associate the presence and guidance of God with a church building like the Israelites did with their tent of meeting? Why or why not?
- **2 Chronicles 6:12-42** | Make a list of all the different ways in which the temple was to be used by Israel according to this prayer of Solomon. How many are similar to our church buildings today? How are they different? Do any surprise you?
- **Revelation 21:22-27** | What does this prophetic passage teach us about the need for a physical structure for the worship of God in Christ?

Self-Care Discipline

April Discipline: True Service | Selectivity & Function

(Celebration of Discipline, p.129)

- If true service is to be understood and practiced, it must be distinguished clearly from "self-righteous service." This month, we will look at several of these differences. Pray that God would allow you to find opportunities for "true service" in your life.
- Self-righteous service picks and chooses whom to serve. Sometimes the high and powerful are served because that will ensure a certain advantage. Sometimes the low and defenseless are served because that will ensure a humble image. True service is indiscriminate in its ministry. It has heard the command of Jesus to be the "servant of all" (Mark 9:35). Brother Francis of Assisi notes in a letter, "Being the servant of all, I am bound to serve all and administer the balm-bearing words of my Lord."
- Self-righteous service is temporary. It functions only while the specific acts of service are being performed. Having served, it can rest easy. True service is a life-style. It acts from ingrained patterns of living. It springs spontaneously to meet human needs.