Diving Deeper into Discipleship

May 9, 2021 | Pastor Pete Fowler

Open Invitation: A Well-Built Life

Sermon Reflection Questions:

- If you've committed to calling Jesus the "Lord" of your life, are you also committed to doing what He says?
- Which of these challenges of building your life upon the rock is most difficult for you: wisdom, patience, or hard work?
- Ask God to prepare you for the next storm or flood that will come through your life. Invite the Holy Spirit to reveal to you where you still need to dig deeper into the foundation of Jesus and His teaching.

Devotional Reading and Reflection

- **Isaiah 28:16-19** | What similarities do you see between this passage and Luke 6:46-49?
- **James 1:22-25** | According to this passage, what are some benefits of following through with actions upon hearing the Word as opposed to merely listening?
- **Proverbs 1:20-33** | If we don't listen and pay attention to wise teaching, what negative effects will that have on our lives?

Self-Care Discipline

May Discipline:

Essentials for Confession | Sorrow

(*Celebration of Discipline, p.145, 152)*)

- Confession is a difficult discipline for us, because we all too often view the believing community as a fellowship of saints before we see it as a fellowship of sinners. We feel that everyone else has advanced so far into holiness that we are isolated and alone in our sin. We cannot bear to reveal our failures to others. We imagine that we are the only ones who have not stepped onto the high road to heaven. Therefore, we hide ourselves.
- The first essential is "sorrow." Sorrow is necessary to a good confession. Sorrow as it relates to confession is not primarily an emotion, though emotion may be involved. It is an abhorrence at having committed the sin, a deep regret at having offended the heart of God. Sorrow is an issue of the will before it is an issue of the emotions. In fact, being sorrowful in the emotions without a godly sorrow in the will destroys the confession. Sorrow is a way of taking the confession seriously.

Notes