

The Great Omission
Hope Chapel Honolulu
Hebrews 5:11 - 6:12

¹¹ About this we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. ¹² For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, ¹³ for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. ¹⁴ But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.
(Hebrews 5:11-14, ESV)

Introduction

The Great Commission—“go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing and teaching them to obey everything (Christ) commanded” (Matthew 28:18-20)—is not just a suggestion or goal for a few super-Christians. While the goal of discipleship is not service, but friendship with God, Christ did say, “you are my friends if you do what I command you” (Jn15:14). Perhaps the most glaring omission from obedience to Christ’s commands is our almost singular focus on the Sunday sermon?

1. Are you ready for the meat? (Hebrews 5:11-14)

- a) “...though by this time you ought to be teachers...” (v.11)
- b) Maturing from “milk” to “meat,” from spiritual childhood to parenthood.

2. Building on a solid foundation. (Hebrews 6:1-3)

- a) These “elementary doctrines” are arguably Paul’s apostolic foundations.
- b) Repentance, faith, baptisms, hands, resurrection and judgment.

3. There’s no other way but to trust and obey. (Hebrews 6:4-12)

- a) “Christ became the source of eternal salvation to all *who obey Him*.” (Hebrews 5:9)
- b) “God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love that you have shown.” (v.10)

Conclusion

Growth in our belief, rhythm and intimacy with God is the best insurance we have for intellectual, emotional and volitional health in this life. Christ’s commandments and the Great Commission are not examples of religious coercion but prescriptives to join in Christ’s ministry of reconciliation and to gain full assurance of faith for your own future and that of those you love. You and I are invited to know God, to be loved by and to love God, to share His love and enjoy Him forever. Go, follow Christ!

For our prayerful study, discovery and application:

1. What do the Word and Spirit of God say about faith response and maturity in Christ here?
2. What is “milk” and what is “meat” in the context of these verses and why does that matter to you?
3. What did the Word and Spirit of God remind you or reveal to you anew through today’s sermon?

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