

CCC Rooted Understanding P4A

In Isaiah 55:11 it says, “*My word will not return void.*”

Now I love that promise, I preach it to people, I speak it to people, I believe it, but the truth is... I look around and a lot times it seems like the word **is returning void**. It seems like people aren't getting it, people's lives aren't always being change by it. God says, *My word will not return empty*, yet Christians are lethargic. A Christian's life isn't any different then anybody else's in the world. Children of Christians act the same as the world acts. It seems like God's word isn't returning at all. We'll this I know for sure... it isn't the message. Then what is it... I truly believe the church universal has forgotten who Jesus really is and what Jesus did for you and me. So this message is going to be in two parts 4A and 4B. Now first I want to talk

a little about what is the goal of this message

Rooted Understanding:

1. The GOAL of rooted understanding is to bring forth obedience. Now, that may not sound very significant to you. Because many people today know about what to do they have massive knowledge of what God calls us to do. You here today on Christian radio and Television preachers and in books today is all about knowledge, giving you understanding, as if that will automatically bring you to obedience. The bible says we, those of us who are leaders and teachers are teaching the church **to do**, to become obedient to the word of God. Not just know it but do it.

See we have over the years established generations of Christians who only think, they can sit around and talk about Jesus, they even have their opinion of what they

believe and don't believe and as a result they have no exercises in obedience. I want to draw a picture for you what most Christians look like. They have very big ears, very big ears and tiny hands, tiny heart and tiny feet because all they have been taught to do is to listen to God's word, that it's about knowledge only. They become a distortion of the way the body is to grow. They become a distortion of how the body of Christ, the church is to look. It's not just about knowledge. God's word says to me that I am to teach you to obey... to do. We as individuals and as a church are called to be action oriented people. Christians are to be life application living. Rooted understanding **is to do... not just hear.**

God's word, the bible says, "*All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: So*

THAT the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." 2 Tim. 3:16-17 Now if you were to read that superficially and I was to say what is the purpose of the bible. You might say the purpose of the bible is four things, doctrine, reproof, correction and instruction and you would be wrong. The purpose of the bible is SO THAT" *So that the man of God the maybe perfect... the four things we read, doctrine, reproof, correction and instruction those are tools. Those are knowledge. The bible is given as a tool of doctrine, as a tool of reproof, as a tool of correction and as a tool of instruction in righteousness. But that's not the purpose of the bible. The purpose of the bible is the, So that part. So* *THAT the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.*"

2. The RESULT of rooted understanding is a serving disciple.

In some churches the message is they just teach to much... I was guilty of this in the beginning of Calvary. I use to have people come to me after a service and say, WOW Pastor bill to much. Teaching is fine only if it gives us a therefore the action. *"(Christ) gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers,(WHY?) to prepare God's people FOR WORKS OF SERVICE, so that the BODY OF CHRIST MAY BE BUILT UP until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and BECOME MATURE, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ!" Eph 4:11-13 Knowledge alone will not change acting on it will. Believing and acting on it will. Jesus gives us some good examples.*

Jesus ALWAYS expected people to do something as a result of rooted understanding.

- *"Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you DO them." John 13:17*
- *"Jesus told him, "Go and DO likewise." Lk 10:37*
- *"But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into PRACTICE is like a foolish man who built his house on sand." Matt. 7:26*
- *"For whoever DOES the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother."
Matt. 12:50*
- *"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who DOES the will of my Father who is in heaven." Matt. 7:21*
- *"If anyone loves me, he will OBEY my teaching..."
John 14:23-24*

- *"Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and OBEY it" Luke 11:28*

JOHN THE BAPTIST: *"Do the things that show you really have changed your hearts and lives." Matt. 3:8 (NCV)*

JAMES: *"Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says." James 1:22 (NIV)*
"What's the use of saying you have faith if you don't prove it by your actions?" James 2:14 (NLT)

JOHN: *"It is by our actions that we know we are living in the truth." 1 John 3:19 (NLT)*

Let me try and give you another example to try and explain what I am saying about knowledge and obedience.

- **You only believe the parts of the Bible you do.**

You may have knowledge of things of God... but you only believe, you're only obedient to God in the things you do.

Don't kid yourselves. You only believe the parts of the bible you do. The rest is just knowledge... Let me ask you..

Do you believe in helping the poor, yes, do you help them, no, then you don't believe it. Getting my point...

Do you believe in tithing, yes I do, do you tithe, no, then you don't believe that in the bible either it is only knowledge.

Do you believe that every person needs to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ, yes, do you do it, No, then you don't believe it.

You only believe the parts of the bible you do. Jesus said *"teach them to do, teach them to obey everything I have commanded you."*

“The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.” 1 John 2:17 (NIV)

“Let us stop just saying we love each other; let us really show it by our actions.” 1 John 3:18 (NLT)

“We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands”. 1 John 2:3

PAUL:

“For though once your heart was full of darkness, now it is full of light from the Lord, and your behavior should show it!” Eph. 5:8 (LB)

Paul’s Instruction for a Young Pastor about his church and he says:

“It is for you to preach the behavior which goes with healthy doctrine.” Titus 2:1 (JB)

“You must tell everyone what to do to follow the true teaching.” (NCV)

“Tell believers to live the kind of life that goes along with accurate teachings.” (GWT)

Why does it seem like God’s word comes back void because we equate somehow in our own lives and in the church today that knowledge automatically brings change, there is no call for me to action or to do anything but consume more knowledge and then maybe I will change. I use the word consume here because when you think this way both in your life and in your church you will become a consumer only. This is what I need God, this is what the church needs to do for me and the truth is we are to become servers not consumers.