

PLEASANT VIEW PROCLAIMER

November 27, 2022

The Mission of the Church - Lesson 10 Edification (Part 2): What is Edification?

Last week we finished up looking at **Worship** as part of our ongoing series on the “Mission of the Church”, and briefly touched on **Edification**. Today we look more deeply at **Edification** as one of the core elements of what God expects from His church. Even though we talked about this briefly last week, I want to start by asking the question, **What is Edification?**

D_____ - Webster’s Dictionary defines edification as “an act or process of edifying.” Edify (or edifying) is defined as “to instruct and improve especially in moral and religious knowledge: UPLIFT, ENLIGHTEN, INFORM. So, edification is instructing, improving, or uplifting. With this definition in mind, what concepts from scripture fit into the category of **Edification**? Some that immediately come to mind are preaching, teaching, exhorting, encouraging, and building up. These are the things we will be looking at for the remainder of the lesson.

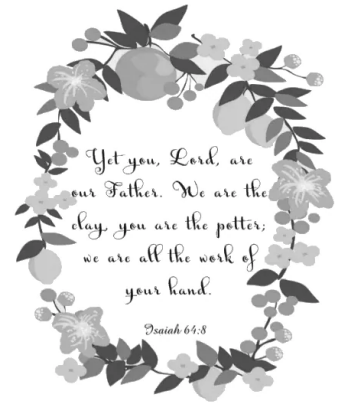
Before we get there, let’s take a side-road and talk about another word, “Hermeneutic”. Hermeneutics is the study of the principles of interpretation. In the context of the Bible, hermeneutics would speak to the methodology that one uses to interpret scripture.

During the Restoration Movement, there was a push to get back to the Bible and as part of this push, a suggested hermeneutic was “Command, Example, and Necessary Inference”. The idea is that when we look to scripture for how to function as a Christian, or as the church, we should be examining the text and asking, “is there a direct command?”, or “is there an example we should follow?”, or “can we infer what pattern we should follow?”. With this in view, let’s look for commands and examples related to the concept of edification.

C_____ - Let’s consider instructions that are given to elders, evangelists, teachers, and those who lead worship:

1 Corinthians 14 - Paul is very clear that activities of the church should only be completed if they are for “building up” (v. 26).

Ephesians 4:11-12 - Evangelists, shepherds, and teachers are “to equip the saints for the work of the ministry, for building up the body of Christ”.



“Praise the Lord! Praise, O servants of the Lord, Praise the name of the Lord! Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time forth and forevermore!”

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*Worship is...
Bending of mind,
will, heart, and knee
In supplication to God
In recognition of all
we have
And all we can be*

1 Timothy 4:11-13 - Paul tells Timothy to “devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching.”

2 Timothy 4:1-5 - Paul says, “preach the word...reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.”

Titus 1:9 - In giving Titus the qualifications for elders in the church, he instructs that the elder must “...be able to give instruction in sound doctrine.”

Titus 2:1-15 - Paul instructs Titus to “teach what accords with sound doctrine” (v. 1). Then after giving instructions for groups in the church, he says to Titus, “Declare these things; exhort and rebuke with all authority.”

What about those who are not elders, evangelists, or teachers?

Romans 12:8 - Paul says that those who have the ability to exhort should be active in exhortation.

Hebrews 3:12-14 - The writer is offering warnings about falling into sin and instructs, “exhort one another every day, as long as it is called ‘today,’ that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.”

Hebrews 10:23-25 - He simply instructs, “let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works”.

E_____ - There are numerous examples of those who were active in edification in scripture. From the Old Testament, consider Moses encouraging Joshua (**Deut 1:34-40; 3:23-29; 31:7-8**), Job (**4:3-4**), and Josiah encouraging the priests (**2 Chron 35:1-2**).

In the New Testament, we could look to the purpose of any of the epistles as edification, such as Peter exhorting elders in **1 Peter 5:1-5**. We can also see examples from **Acts** such as Paul and Barnabas in Galatia (**14:19-23**), Judas and Silas in Antioch (**15:30-35**), and Paul in Macedonia (**20:1-2**). Acts also tells of Joseph who was so known for his encouragement that he was nicknamed “son of encouragement” by the Apostles (**4:36-37**). Barnabas lives out this name repeatedly (**9:26-30; 11:19-26**).

PRAYER LIST

- **Burt and Peggy Wilkerson** are in the hospital with pneumonia
- Our sympathies are with **Patricia Stroud**, who lost her daughter **Patricia Buchanan** last week
- **Catherine Pennington** will have hernia surgery
- **Camille Brosky**, a family friend of the Agees, is recovering from a stroke
- **Judy Cook** is now recuperating at home
- **Mike Smith** may need open heart surgery
- Elizabeth’s grandmother **Carol Saling** has cancer
- **Maria Hunter Harrington** has breast cancer
- **Forshia Pennington** has cancer. **Vicki Reed** has been diagnosed with Myeloma as well
- **Donna Rawls Head** has cancer
- Continue to pray for: those in **Ukraine**; the **Brown** family, **Kim Waller**, **Kristine Garrett**, the **Krantz** family, **John Hayes**, **Nick Phifer**, **Isabel Johnson**, and **Jim Sims**

SERVING TODAY (November 27, 2022)

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Read: R. Mayo
Prayer: J.Gupton

WORSHIP

Read: J. Buchanan
Wait On Table: M. Reed
Serve: D. Billingsley, J. Demonbreun
Prayer: L. Gregory