Preaching Practicum

Dr. Steve Schell | October, 2020 | Week 2 Class Notes

Transformation Precedes Education

• Mt. 28:18-20 “3 baptisms” (See: Ac 19:3-6)

• The inner miracle: Ezk 36:25-27, Jer 31:31-34

• Christianity is based on a miracle: when the gospel is preached accurately God Himself will transform the hearts of those who believe in an instant. And that miraculous transformation is what creates a disciple even though that person still has much to learn.

• He or she now has eyes to see and ears to hear. Jn 3:3, 5, 6; 1 Co 2:14

• We waste our time trying to disciple people whose hearts have not been transformed. They wear us out; they discourage us.

• Those with a changed heart are inwardly motivated and become a joy to teach because they try to live out what they learn.

• Paul calls this “a circumcision [of the heart] made without hands…” (Col 2:11; Dt 30:6).

• This is why we must regularly minister the gospel, which includes helping people to receive the Baptism with the Holy Spirit.

• Repent (full surrender) and Believe (trust Christ alone) and Receive (the promised indwelling of the Holy Spirit).

• Everything that is taught in the New Testament assumes this miracle has taken place or directs people toward it.

• If we understand this truth, we will preach differently: we will not threaten or bribe. We understand we are speaking to hearts that want to obey God, so our assignment is to teach them how to obey all that Jesus has commanded us.