christian advance archives

# advance in discipleship – pleasing god – 11/26/19

**PLEASING GOD**

God makes a paramount statement at Jesus’ baptism. It indicates a universal goal, a paramount goal for everyone, especially followers of Christ. God (The Father) says to Jesus, and those witnessing His baptism, “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased.” Wow! Notice God makes a direct statement about Jesus’ life before Jesus has done any ministry. This statement is made pre-ministry. This is an amazing relational statement. Jesus, you are my Son. You are my family. Jesus, I love you even though you have not performed any anointed ministry. Lastly, Jesus, I am really really-pleased with you. Again, Jesus has not done anything up to this point for the reader to see why the Father would be pleased with His Son (from a human vantage).

**Pleasing God** is NOT performance based it is relationship based! But how? Before doing ministry, Jesus’ relationship with the Father pleases the Father. The way Jesus has lived His life pleased the Father. Jesus’ thinking pleased the father. Jesus has been walking in relationship with the Father and pleasing Him each day for about thirty years! What a goal, this pleasing of God! What an example, this life of Jesus! What a wonderful way to live.

Jesus' paramount goal for His disciples is that their lives will please the Father just like His.  We might tremble a little if we were to ask the Father, "Does my life please you?"  Yet, keep in mind the answer is relationship based and not performance based.  Are you in His Word?  Do you meet Him in prayer?  Do you follow His lead?  These help build, strengthen and maintain our *relationship* with the God. Grow your relationship with the Father and please Him.  Teach your disciples to do likewise. This is one side of the coin of the paramount goal of biblical discipleship … side one - **pleasing God**.

(see – Matthew 3:16-17, 17:5; Mark 1:11; Luke 3:22; 2Peter 1:17; John 8:29)

Paramount Goal #1 for your disciple – **PLEASING GOD**

For more on this read ***God’s Purposes for You!*** by Allan Coppedgeand ***In His Image*** by Allan Coppedge and Bill Ury.