

**Sermon Notes of  
Pastor Glen Weber's Sermon on May 3, 2015  
"One Plants, Another Waters"**

**[In today's sermon, Senior Pastor Glen Weber shows through 1 Cor. 3 that we have a calling to do the Lord's work. He then asks, "What ministry opportunities might Jesus be calling us to enter into?"]**

**Notes:**

Introduction:

- Why do we bother with announcements in church?
- And what is your reaction to announcements?
- How was your reaction today to the Mother's Day announcement?

Revised Common Lectionary:

- A very large part of the Christian Church uses what is called the Revised Common Lectionary.
- It is called the "Common Lectionary" because it was designed to be "common" in all churches and that all would preach through the Bible in a three-year rotation.
  
- As a part of the liturgical calendar, the lectionary focuses on Easter for seven weeks from Easter to Pentecost.
- This is the "5th week of Easter."
- Today's NT passage is John 15:1-8, Abide in the Vine.
- Living out life on the Vine as we live with and through Jesus Christ.
  
- This concept fits with the last song we sang, "From the Inside Out."
- But pastor Glen has decided to give us a different message today.

Corinthians:

- This last Thursday in Bible study, we were studying I Cor. 3.
- In the process of that passage, pastor Glen felt a nudge that we should consider it as a sermon rather than what he had planned to give.

Corinthian Background:

- Problems in the church at Corinth – Divisions, Personalities, Human wisdom.
- Paul is writing in the early part of this letter about the divisions in the congregation.
- It was mostly over personalities – "I am of Paul", "I am of Apollos" and "I am of Christ."
- They had become puffed up about wisdom but it was human wisdom, not Godly wisdom.
- However, the Corinthians were not spiritual enough – Paul said some of them are still "infants in Christ" and therefore he had to give them the milk of the word.

**1 Cor. 3:1, Brothers and sisters, I could not address you as people who live by the Spirit but as people who are still worldly – mere infants in Christ.**

- He has to address them as spiritual infants.

**2) I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready.**

- When he founded the church they were babes in Christ because they were mostly Gentile and had no Biblical background.
- Unfortunately after 5 years, Paul felt they were still not ready for spiritual meat.

**3) You are still worldly. For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere humans?**

- They were still caught up in jealousy and quarrelling they brought into the church, which should have been abandoned by now through the guiding of the Holy Spirit.

**4) For when one says, “I follow Paul,” and another, “I follow Apollos,” are you not mere human beings?**

- Mature believers don't get caught up in personalities – especially focusing on “who is the greatest.”
- Paul founded the church.
- Apollos, trained in Alexandria, Egypt, nurtured them along because he was an skill teacher.

**5) What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul?**

- The personalities involved in their congregation are simply servants of Jesus.

**5b) Only servants, through whom you came to believe – as the Lord has assigned to each his task.**

- Each has been assigned a task by the Lord to serve according to their skills.

**6) I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow.**

- Paul planted – founded the church, Apollos watered – nurtured them to grow.
- We need to realize that nothing would have happened if God were not involved.

**7) So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.**

- One is not better than the other, because the final results depend upon God.
- As we were studying this Thursday, the Holy Spirit led pastor Glen to focus NOT on the personalities but on the part each person performs in the ministry of Jesus.
- Paul will focus more on this in chapters 12-14 and elsewhere.

**8) The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor.**

- Each person has one purpose – to do the Lord's work.
- What is your part? What is my part?

**9) For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building.**

- We are God's fellow workers (in GCI we call it "participating in Christ's ministry).
- Our goal is make new disciples of Christ.
- The "mere infants in Christ" are in the field today as back in Paul's day.
- This is the work of the Father.
- He sent Jesus to this earth to fulfill His mission.
- And Jesus is asking us to participate with Him.
- Paul wanted the Corinthian members to grow up spiritually!!!
- He wanted them to mature into the life of the Spirit and follow His lead out not the community and world.

Initial question:

- In the opening of the sermon, pastor Glen asked a couple question,
- "Why do we bother with announcements?"
- "What is your reaction to the various announcements?" (And he used Mother's Day as an example.)
- What did you hear?
- Was it just an interesting announcement?
- Or, did you ponder, "What mother do I know that I could ask to attend this service?"
- Maybe someone you haven't talk to for year?
- Maybe you have a friend who has died and you could invite his/her mother?
- Maybe a single mother?
- Did you ask God to put someone on your mind?
- Pastor Glen has a couple mothers he plans to invite.

**10) By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as a wise builder, and someone else is building on it.**

- By the grace of God, we do what God has placed before us.
- In Paul's case, it was to plant the congregation and make sure Jesus Christ was their solid foundation.

**10b) But each one should build with care.**

- We must be careful how we build.
- We can focus on things other than Jesus, which is a mistake.

- Many churches and Christian authors today are focusing on Blood moons, shemitah, and other non-Jesus topics which just focus our minds on erroneous ideas.

**I Cor. 3:11, For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.**

- This is so crucial. Jesus Christ has to be the foundation of not just the church but in each of our lives.
- Having Jesus as our foundation, He will make us ready to face and endure the trials of life that are going to come our way.

Concluding comments:

- We are all called into the fellowship of the God to serve in His mission through Jesus Christ.
- What ministry opportunities might He be calling you, individually, to enter into?
- As you hear announcements the leadership of New Hope is letting you know what Jesus is doing in and through New Hope.
- Will you ask the Holy Spirit to show you how you can participate?

Communion:

- The broken piece of bread helps us to remember that Jesus became flesh.
- And that He went through trials of life just as we do.
- And the cup helps us to remember that Jesus poured out His blood so that our sins are totally forgiven and that we now can have an intimate relationship with the Father.

**Closing Prayer**