

Accountability

Ezekiel 3:17–19

Ezekiel was to warn the people of what was coming.

If the people didn't listen and died in their sins, it wouldn't be Ezekiel's fault.

If, however, he failed to warn them, their blood would be upon his head.

Each individual is responsible for their own actions and will be judged according to those actions.

Paul addressed this very issue.

Acts 20:26, 27

A. Our 1st responsibility is to introduce others to Christ.

1. The individual that has not received Jesus Christ as their Lord and Master is dead in their sin.

2. Only Christ can give them life.

1 John 5:12

B. Our 2nd responsibility to that individual is to cultivate that life.

1. To cultivate that life, we need the church. [God's people]

2. The church must lead the believer to:

I. RECOGNIZE THE LORDSHIP OF JESUS CHRIST.

A. They belong to Christ through redemption.

1 Corinthians 6:19, 20

B. They are to be loyal to Christ as Lord.

Luke 6:46-49

C. They are to lovingly obey Christ.

John 14:15

II. RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF GOD'S WORD.

Listen to the prayer of Jesus for His disciples.

John 17:15-18

...teach them your word, which is truth.

Truth is taught by three means.

The first is the Scriptures—a Book you can learn from.

The second is the Son—a Person you can love.

Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. John 14:6

The third is the Spirit—a Power to live by.

And the Spirit, who is truth, confirms it with his testimony. 1 John 5:6c

If you are learning from the Scriptures, loving the Son, and living in the Spirit, you will be walking in truth.

Disciples are set apart by God, equipped by the Spirit, and readied by God's word enabling them to enter the world without being victimized by its darkness.

John 17:18; John 17:20, 21

III. RECOGNIZE THE REQUIRED RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD.

A. We are to crave the Word of God.

1 Peter 2:2,3

B. We are to study the Word of God.

2 Timothy 2:15

C. We are to practice the Word of God.

James 1:22-25