

SUNDAY NOTES 9-04-11
BECOMING THOROUGHLY FURNISHED
FOR ALL GOOD WORKS

- * The moment we receive Jesus Christ as our Savior, our spirits become brand new, II Corinthians 5:17, “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.” Since we are in Christ, we can live our lives just like Him, I Corinthians 11:1, “**PATTERN YOURSELVES after me (follow my example), as I imitate and follow Christ (the Messiah).**” How do we pattern our lives after Christ?
- * Our souls and bodies didn’t change, therefore, to live like Christ, **we must learn how to think like Christ**, Romans 12:2, “And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”
- * Just like a new born baby, not much is expected out of a new Christian. Rick Renner compares the new birth spiritually to a simple small fishing boat with a small motor with a set of oars. Yes, a new (carnal) believer is saved, and on his way to Heaven and like this small fishing boat he can make to the other side of a small lake but is not equipped to make it across the sea of life. The problem facing new believers is that they are forced to sail on the sea of life and can become discouraged and defeated because they are not properly equipped.
- * 2Timothy 3:17, “That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.” Like most serious fishermen, they don’t remain satisfied with the small fishing boat. After a while, they want something bigger and seriously equipped with equipment such as, a huge motor, a trolling motor, a depth-finder, a computerized temperature gauge, and of course an anchor with an electric motor. Now the fishermen are thoroughly furnished to do some serious fishing.
- * When Romans 12:2, becomes a reality in our lives, we become thoroughly furnished to sail on the sea of life and encounter all kinds of weather, even storms and come through victoriously. The spiritual equipment that we need to succeed is imparted to us when the Word of God becomes an integral part of our lives.
- * Carnal believers never are equipped to fulfill their God given destinies. They are always wanting to be fed and taken care of rather than feeding and caring for others. Hebrews 5:12, “For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.”
- * So the decision is up to each of us. How far do we want to go in fulfilling the divine plans for our lives? If we desire to run the complete course and finish God’s plan, then let’s purpose to dive into the Word of God for an exciting faith journey which is pleasing unto our Father God. We’ll be fully equipped and thoroughly furnished. 2Timothy 3:17