

WE DO NOT ACCOMPLISH SPIRITUAL FORMATION SIMPLY BY
SETTING UP THE PROGRAMS AND WRITING POLICIES. THERE
IS NOTHING “ONCE FOR ALL” ABOUT FORMATION. IT IS
CEASELESS BECAUSE ENTROPY, SIN, THE FLESH, AND OUR
IDOLS NEVER REST IN THEIR BATTLE AGAINST THE HUMAN
SOUL AND GOD’S KINGDOM CLAIMS ON IT.

JAMES C WILHOIT

“COME, AND FOLLOW ME” JESUS SAID, AND AT ONCE THEY
LEFT EVERYTHING AND FOLLOWED HIM.

ST MATTHEW

²LORD, I have heard of your fame; I stand in awe of your deeds, LORD. Renew them in our day, in our time make them known; in wrath remember mercy.

Habakkuk 3 vs. 2

*WHEN IS OUR CHURCH
AT ITS BEST?*

GOOD TEACHING?

PASSIONATE WORSHIP?

MISSIONAL STRATEGY?

EXCELLENT PROGRAMMING?

CONTEXTUALIZATION?

SECULAR APOLOGETICS?

*Q; WHEN IS OUR CHURCH
AT ITS BEST?*

*A. When its calling you to radical
abandonment to Jesus and his kingdom*

¹⁴For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

2 Corinthians 5

²⁴However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God's grace.

Acts 20 vs. 24

⁷But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings becoming like him in his death, ¹¹and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. ¹³Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life
worthy of the calling you have received.

Ephesians 4 vs. 1

*WHAT ARE WE ACTUALLY
PRODUCING HERE?*

M+T+W+P+V+S+G+S=?

*money + teaching + worship + programs +
volunteers + systems + gatherings + small groups
= what kind of disciples*

Christianity has no cost in America...we've made it way to easy to be born again-perhaps much easier than Jesus intended...When do we get to the point at which we accept smaller numbers of intensely devoted people rather than feverishly investing in filling auditoriums and stadiums with massive numbers of Lukewarm "Christians" that Jesus promised to spew from his mouth.

Side By Side, A Handbook on Discipleship.

Do you honestly believe that our big churches and highly visible Christian leaders have brought about a movement that is taken seriously in this country? We feel we are making a difference because we are so important to ourselves. We have created a phenomenal subculture with our own media, entertainment, educational system, and political hierarchy so that we have the sense that we're doing a lot. But what we've really done is create a ghetto that is easily dismissed by the rest of society.

Bob Briner, Roaring Lambs

PEOPLE WITH VISION

²LORD, I have heard of your fame; I stand in awe of your deeds, LORD. Renew them in our day, in our time make them known; in wrath remember mercy.

Habakkuk 3 vs. 2

A CERTAIN KIND OF PERSON

*IN A CERTAIN KIND OF
COMMUNITY*

*ON A CERTAIN KIND
OF MISSION*

HOW?

ABIDING IN CHRIST

*CHRISTIAN PRACTICES
IN LIFEGROUPS*

*MISSIONAL FORMATION
THROUGH GROUPS*

WHAT IF?

COMMIT WITH YOUR LIFE

LEADERSHIP

INFLUENCE

FINANCES

EXPERTISE