

Building the Lord's Body Requires Time and Patience

Sam Willcut

Understanding time and the need for patience, especially with respect to building the Lord's body, seems to be a mark of maturity. Young Christians (and especially young preachers who need seasoning) may not realize the amount of time and patience necessary. Very often, our zeal and enthusiasm (while a necessary quality—Titus 2:14) may rush us into thinking that building the Lord's body can be done quickly, and we become impatient.

Consider the amount of time, patience, and care that God put into the scheme of redemption. When Adam and Eve committed the first human sin in Genesis 3, Jesus did not come to die for them immediately, but rather, a calculated plan of salvation went into effect. This plan, which Paul described, "According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Eph. 3:11), took thousands of years to execute. "But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law" (Gal. 4:4). The point is that God demonstrated time and patience Himself, so when we see Peter preaching on the Pentecost, and more than three thousand responded appropriately, we understand that much preparation went into that occasion.

Consider another example. We often see the wonderful effects of Philip and his preaching in Samaria in Acts 8 as both men and women were baptized as a result of him preaching Christ and the things concerning the kingdom of God. Nevertheless, we may forget the work that Jesus Himself did in Samaria just months prior in John 4. As the conversation between Jesus and a Samaritan woman led into Jesus teaching and influencing many Samaritans, many of them believed on Him. As a matter of fact, they were successful in persuading him to stay two more days. Look at the saturating work that Jesus was doing in preparing the hearts of the people. Therefore, when Philip comes along months later, his success with the preaching of the gospel and his Christ-centered message is directly related to the groundwork that Jesus had already performed. Together, these show that building the body of Christ takes time and often patience.

Jesus illustrated the role of teaching and preaching as sowing the seed in Matthew 13. Farmers understand quite well the need for time and patience that goes with planting and harvesting a crop. After planting the seeds, farmers do not expect to begin harvesting the next day, but they must exercise patience before the plants even sprout above the ground, much less develop to the point of producing fruit ready for harvest. So it is with

building the Lord's body. While we understand the tremendous promise that God gave us:

For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it. (Isa. 55:10-11)

We also know that such is not promised with immediate results. Sometimes, the results are not seen for years. From my experience, some of the most effective preachers have been those who have labored many years in one location. They have patiently labored in the community to the point that even non-Christians in the community know and recognize them. They have worked patiently to develop a good name in that locality, and it is often after working longer than a decade that they reap their greatest harvest. Why? It is because building the Lord's body requires time and patience. I believe it was the late William Woodson who expressed, "It will take preaching ten to twenty years to undo ten to twenty years' worth of problems." Such is very often true.



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'KHRIS' SUANGPHUM, A WEEKLY BULLETIN FOR THE MEMBERS
OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST, DELHI, ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK'

Enkaitu: Jamson Guite | Panpihtu: Kham Minthang | Jangthang

BIBLE CLASS

Class	Teacher
Adult	: James, Thawngsiandong
Inter.	: Khamminthang
Primary	: Kimpi

TUNI BIAKKHAWMNA PROGRAMME

Thumna Hun-uk: Jangthang
Lapitu : Timothy
Thilpiak : Thanglianmang
Theihgigena : Thangdouliau
Thuhilhtu : Jamson
Thumna : Andru

Last Sunday (07/07/2013)

Offerings = ₹ /-

Helping the Poor Honors God!

Poverty is not a virtue. Yet the fact is that poverty is always with us. While in the home of Simon the leper, a grateful, loving woman anointed our Lord with "pure nard" ointment. Some present questioned this "waste of ointment," saying it could have been sold and given to the poor. Jesus responded to them: "For ye have the poor always with you, and whensoever ye will ye can do them good; but me ye have not always." (Mark 14:7) Moses told Israel, "For the poor will never cease out of the land." (Deuteronomy 15:7-11.) Poverty being a permanent characteristic of our world, we must not isolate our response to one period of the year. We must "continue to remember the poor." (Galatians 2:10)

What precious promises are made in holy scripture to those who respond to the cries of those in need.

1. "He that hat pity upon the poor lendeth to the Lord, and his good deed will he pay him again." (Proverbs 19:17)
2. "He that hath a bountiful eye shall be blessed; For he giveth of his bread to the poor." (Proverbs 22:9)
3. Psalm 41:1-3 "To the one who responds to the needy God delivers that one from trouble, blesses him, protects him from his enemies and give health and healing."

These references in God's word could be multiplied, but these are sufficient to emphasize the blessing available to those who honor God by helping the poor.

by Curtis Hall

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

... Mihoih tuh a thilhoih hih ziaak in kipahman piak in a om dia,
mi hoihlou in bel a thil hoihlou hih ziaak in a
thuak diing (Ezekiel 18:20).

THU TUAMTUAM

DAMLOU

✓ Hun sawtkuamtak paita akipan a damlou khosik a om unaunu Hoihmuankim kal paita seppatni in a damlouna typhoid ziaak in Charak Palika Hospital a admit in ana om hi. Ni li sung vel damdawi inn a a omnung in kal paita ningani in hospital ana pawtsanta hi. A hong damsiang pah i deihsak uhi. Thumna ah phawk ni hang.

KIKNAWNTA

✓ Summer suti zang a Shillong akipan a hong zin unaupa Suanlian i lak ua hun sawt kuamtak a omnung in kal paita ningani in a sinlai maban sunzom diing in Shillong lam ah ana paikik nawnta hi.

✓ Unaunu Mary Nemlianching te nupa in leng i lak ua kalkhat vel hun a zat nung un kal paita seppatni in a omna un Dehradun lam zuan in honna kiksian nawnta uhi.

✓ Unaunu Chinghoihvung in leng kal paita sepnawnni in a omna Hydrebad lam zuan in honna kiksian nawnta hi. Amah ahiehleh unaunu Vungi damlouna toh kisai a hong zin ahi.

KIGINNI BIAKNA PROGRAMME

A Mun : Khenpi inn.

Mayur Vihar.

A Hun - 6:30 pm

Hun-uk : Sianno

Lapitu : Mangneu

Thuhilhtu : Lambiaksang

Thumna : Thangdouliau

KALNAWN BIAKKHAWMNA PROGRAMME

Thumna Hun-uk: Pauminthang
Lapitu : Thawnkhansang
Thilpiak : Thangzalam
Theihgigena : Sianno
Thuhilhtu : Khamminthang
Thumna : Thonggin

HONGZIN

✓ Hih diing poimoh khenkhat neihziaak in New Lamka akipan in unaunu Chinglianaching leh unaunu Ngaisuanaching-te Delhi hongzin uh a tun ilak uah omlel uhi. Bangtan omthei diing uh hiam chih bel theih hilou hi.

✓ Huchi mahbang in unaupa Gin Samuel leng kal paita seppatni in Shillong akipan in Delhi hong zin hi. Unaupa ahiehleh unaunu Vungi damlouna ziaak a hong zin hi a, sawtkhop om diing hi in leng kigen hi.

✓ Unaupa Kammuanlal leng hih diing poimoh khenkhat neih ziaak in Chandigarh akipan in hongzin hi. Aman kal paita sung mah in honna paikiksian nawnpah hi.

ZINKHIA

✓ Unaupa Lianminthang Ngaihte in tuni in Pune lam zuan in honna zinkhiaksan hi. Amah Pune lam a collge va kai hi a, a fialal year documents khenkhatte ngaihtuah diing a va zin ahi.

LIAMZEK

✓ Unaunu Thang Mary a inntung ua kipan a kumsuk vuhzuk ziaak a step kawt ah kitalpuk kha in a taan liamkha zek hi. A nase lua bel hilou hihtuak hi. A ang a apawm baby Ginlunsang bel bang mah chihlou in suakta hi.