

THE FIRST PRINCIPLES

Summary

Books 1-8

Becoming a Disciple (1)

1. What is the gospel?
2. What does it mean to be rooted, built up, and established?
3. What have you done to go about renewing your mind around the principles we have been studying?

Belonging to a Family of Families (2)

1. Where do you get your greatest sense of belonging?
2. What does Paul mean when he instructs us to “walk wisely, making the most of our time”?
3. During the past year, how have you ordered your personal and family life priorities around Christ’s plans and purposes?

Participating in the Mission of the Church (3)

1. From what do you get your greatest sense of purpose?
2. What do you think this means for us today: “They were to live skillfully among nonbelievers, viewing the relationships themselves as opportunities. The idea was not to look for opportunities, but to view everyday relationships as opportunities to be witnesses.”
3. What are you doing to make sure you are always ready to give a defense for the hope you have in Christ?

Cultivating Habits of the Heart (4)

1. Is your life overwhelmed by what Christ has done and what He is doing in the world and in your own life?
2. Do you have any goals or aspirations that stand in the way of being devoted to Christ's plans, purposes, and principles?
3. What can you do to better "aspire to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands"?

Enjoying Your Relationship (5)

1. Husbands, how do you apply your call to love your wife as Christ loved the church as sacrificed everything, including his own life, to make sure she has everything she needs and more?

2. Wives, how do you apply the principles of submitting to your husband as the church does to Christ?

3. Husbands, how are you leading your family to avoid the problems of individualism and the nuclear family approach?

Passing On Your Beliefs (6)

1. How do we instruct and train our children without merely changing their conduct?
2. What are you doing as a parent to learn how to encourage and motivate your children?
3. Husbands, have you done anything in the past couple months to plan for training up your children in these truths?

Envisioning Fruitful Lifework (7)

1. What is encompassed in your lifework?
2. Whatever your current situation is, are you working hard?
3. Do you give to the work regularly, cheerfully, and not just out of your abundance?

Building for Future Generations (8)

1. Are you committed to being devoted to one another, giving preference to one another, contributing to the needs of one another, and practicing hospitality toward one another?
2. What does it mean to lay hold of Christ?
3. What are you doing to pursue “true success” and modeling this pursuit for the next generation, with the understanding that “true success centers on a life that is lived and invested in a local church family and that is totally committed to the progress of the gospel”?