**Changed Into His Image**

Lesson Twelve: Being a Ministry-Minded Overseer

**Introduction**: The goal of the ministry-minded overseer is to saturate the disciple with the ways and the words of the living God, so that they achieve spiritual goals. The need for people to be discipled is great. However, the need for people to disciple others is even greater. Hopefully the material covered in this lesson will both motivate and instruction you to be persistent in discipleship.

By the end of this lesson you should be able to:

* Recognize how death to self is the atomic-level component of Christianity.
* Understand that each of us is called to be spiritually parenting others.
* Explain the main discipleship emphasis illustrated in each of the three parenting periods: the preschool years, the school-age years, and the teen years.

1. **Effective Disciple-Makers Are**
   1. God-loving examples
   2. Word-filled teachers
   3. Ministry-minded overseers
   4. Disciple-making is spiritual parenting.

1. **The Atomic Structure of Christianity**
   1. Learning self-denial.
   2. Learning the application of self-denial
   3. Serving God and others.
2. **The Preschool Years: The Rebel Broken**
   1. The disciple must be taught the meaning of self-denial: “You cannot have your own way.”
      1. Obedience and self-denial are not necessarily the same. Obedience can be just the outward compliance whereas self-denial is the practice within the heart that says no to what the sinful heart wants.
      2. It must become a God-dependent self-denial.
   2. Be not weary in well doing.
      1. The disciple will need to be corrected over and over again.
      2. Discipleship is not primarily about controlling behavior but leading the disciple to a place where they come face to face with God and His ways and His Word.
3. **The School-Age Years: The Disciple Trained**
   1. The flesh will produce chaos.
      1. Learning law and order.
      2. Order does not make us godly, but makes us useful.
   2. Often when discipling adults who are just beginning to put their lives back together they will need help bring them back to order. Their lives reflect the chaos of fleshly living – usually in several areas
      1. Help establish some rules in their finances.
      2. Help establish new principles of communication.
      3. Help establish consistent principles of child-rearing.
      4. Help establish personal devotional time with the Lord.
   3. The empowerment comes from walking in the Spirit.
   4. The motivation is found in the first and second great commandments.
4. **The Teen Years: The Servant Deployed**
   1. The Bible does not present maturity as a result of reaching a certain age but as a result of becoming fruitful for Christ.
   2. Consistently living the applications of God-dependent self-denial.
   3. Should be active in service: a servant-leader
5. **Getting Them Ready for the Biggest Day of Their Lives**
   1. The biggest day is when we will stand before Jesus Christ to give an account of our usefulness to Him during this earthly pilgrimage.
   2. One of the greatest joy in all of life is helping someone prepare for the day they will stand before the Lord and be able to give a good account to Him.
6. **Application for Life Change**
   1. Respond by practicing God-dependent self-denial.
   2. Respond by embracing a life of law and order so that you are productive.
   3. Respond by allowing God to use you as a servant-leader.
   4. Respond by using every day to get ready for “the biggest day” of your life when you will stand before God.