

HEAD, HEART, AND HANDS

Acts 18:24-19:10

Ecclesia reformata, semper reformanda (The church reformed, always reforming)

Christ followers are continually being formed by Christ

Christians must think like a Christian, live like a Christian, and have a transformed heart like a Christian.

How does this growth come about in our lives?

The normative formation process is called discipleship

Discipleship is intentionally encouraging another believer to walk with Jesus.

God transforms every aspect of the Christian and does so through three major emphases:

1. Teaching and Correction—Right thinking, the Head (Orthodoxy)
2. Encouragement and Exhortation—a disposition of the Heart (Orthocardia)
3. Serving and Sending—Living out the Christian walk, the Hands (Orthopraxy)

Correction is needed when there is inadequate understanding

In both sections, God used people to help correct an inadequate understanding of the nature and character of God. Both knew only the baptism of John. John's baptism is for repentance, in anticipation of the coming Messiah. Jesus's baptism is an act of obedient living with Jesus as Lord. It is a sign that a spiritual change has happened and it confirms the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Apollos, Priscilla, and Aquila teach us how to confront another person and how to receive the confrontation. Apollos could have reacted in a number of different ways. Never underestimate what the Lord will do when you move towards people.

Who are you discipling that will be able to teach others? Will they continue to disciple long after you're gone? Do you see discipling as your life goal? Are you trying to give people a well-rounded understanding of what it means to be a Christian?

The norm of the Christian experience is repentance, faith in Jesus, water baptism, and the gift of the Spirit (John Stott).

To be Christian is to have the Spirit.

The fruit of correction is ministry multiplication

If you invest in people what could happen?

Be determined to speak of Jesus and about the souls of people.

Key Point: Find those who are moving toward the Lord and invest in their lives.

Small Group Questions:

Head (orthodoxy):

- What are the areas biblically or theologically that we need to be taught more accurately?
- Do I spend time regularly reading and growing in the knowledge of God?
- What am I currently reading that will help me think about Jesus deeply?

Heart (orthocardia):

- What are the inner parts of my soul that I don't want to surrender or give to God?
- Am I going through the motions in any area of my life? How could I live in wholeness?
- Where do I see God working that moves the depths of my soul to joy and service?

Hands (orthopraxy):

- Am I living out my faith? What are the roadblocks that cause me to be idle?
- How am I stewarding the gifts that God has given me? Am I using them for Christ's kingdom?
- We all have the Christian life we want- do my actions reflect my heart for God?