Incarnational Christianity

"Growth: The Apprentice Model"

John 15:1-5

08-21-22

Introduction: We are in the midst of a study where we are focused on learning to live like Christ.

- 1. We're calling it Incarnational Christianity, because when Jesus was with us on earth, we got a glimpse of what that was like.
- 2. Sadly, Christianity doesn't always focus on Christlikeness.
- 3. To prevent this, we started with the question: What does it mean to be born again?
- 4. Then we explored true spirituality.
- 5. Last week we focused in on living in God's grace.
- 6. This morning we focus on growth.
- 7. Living like Christ is a rest of our lives journey of becoming Christlike.
- 8. A great way to understand that process is the apprentice model.
- 9. An apprentice is someone who is learning a trade from a skilled employer.
- 10. In medieval times an apprentice was remarkably similar to the 12 apostles of Jesus.
- 11. So, this morning we will look at spiritual growth through the lens of the apprentice model.
- I. The Apprentice Model
 - A. What It Looked Like
 - B. How It Worked

- II. Training Vs. Trying
 - A. Knowing
 - B. Doing
 - C. Being

Conclusion: What we are describing is a rest of our lives journey.

- 1. It is possible to become like Jesus, to live like Jesus.
- 2. It takes time, patience & practice.
- 3. There are no short cuts, easy steps or magic pills.
- 4. As we live with Jesus, we grow & He is able to live through us.