

Seekers or Peepers: Second Session

Grace Doctrine Church

1821 South River Road • St. Charles, MO 63303

August 28, 2011

“Seekers or Peepers”

Let me introduce you to the **“Fantastic Four”** so you will understand what awaits those who **seek** God and His Word.

In order to do this, I need to read a few verses from **Proverbs 2:1-11**. I will be using a modified expanded translation called **“God’s Word Translation.”**

“My son, if you take my word to heart and treasure my commands within you, if you pay close attention to wisdom and let your mind reach for understanding, if you call out for insight and if you ask aloud for understanding, if you search for wisdom as if it were money and hunt for it as if it were hidden treasure, then you will find the knowledge of God. The Lord gives wisdom. From his mouth comes knowledge and understanding. He has reserved priceless wisdom for decent people. He is a shield for those who walk in integrity in order to guard those on the path of justice and to watch over the way of his godly ones. Then you will understand what is right and just and fair, every good course in life.” (And now here they are)

PROV. 2:10-11

“WISDOM will come into your heart.....notice where wisdom comes from!! (Prov.9:10 “The Fear HEB/YIRAH respect or reverence of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.”)

KNOWLEDGE will be pleasant to your soul (Col.2:3 “in Christ are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.”)

FORESIGHT will protect you (Phil:1:9 “and this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all

discernment.” (AISTHESIS/Greek cognition, perception discretion)

UNDERSTANDING will guard you. (Ps.119:104 “through your precepts I get understanding.”)

If I had to identify the **personality profile** of our Lord part of it would definitely include these assets. There is no doubt that **He had developed wisdom** (Luke 2:52 “and Jesus increased in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man.”)

There is no doubt he had **phenomenal understanding** (Lu. 2:47 “and all that heard him were amazed at his understanding and answers.”)

Without a doubt he had **amazing foresight.** (Mark 10:32-34 “and they were on the way going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus went before them; and they were amazed and, as they followed they were afraid. And he took them again the twelve, and began to tell them what things should happen unto him, saying, Behold, we go up to Jerusalem; and the son of man shall be delivered unto the Chief Priest, and unto the scribes; and they shall condemn him to death, and shall deliver him to the Gentiles and they (the Gentiles) shall mock him and shall scourge him and shall spit upon him, and shall kill him, and the third day he shall rise again.”

His **understanding of the scriptures** was legendary. Go back to age 12 in the temple and how the Scribes and Pharisees were amazed at His understanding of the scriptures.

Remember, the OT scripture were written about him but also to him. He had a roadmap of his life in the prophecies of the OT. He knew the foretold events of his life.

If our Lord acquired these assets in his human body, (and he did) then we can as well. Remember, **his spiritual life was our prototype.** He demonstrated a unique lifestyle while in human form and we know it today as “**the Christian Life.**”

As our Pastor takes us through the life of Christ and we see how he dealt with rejection and temptation as well as political and religious pressure, we learn what is expected of us.

He faced political pressure from Rome but never appealed to politics:

He was mocked by religious leaders but never discouraged:

He was rejected by his own but never rejected them:

He was tempted repeatedly but never succumbed to the temptation:

The people he needed most sold him out and even denied him. You have never been stung until a friend sells you out or attacks you from the blind side.

If you are in the ministry, let me give you the info I have learned the hard way. Be prepared to suffer. Your friends will turn on you, religion will oppose you, politicians will use you and Satan will discourage you.

Your message will be distorted (write it down; it will always be there) you will be discredited, the hearers will be discouraged and the objective will be defeated. Remember, Satan is working way ahead of you seeking to cut you off at the pass...if not this year then next!!

Romans 5:3 “and not only that but we also glory in tribulation knowing that tribulation produces perseverance and perseverance produces character and character produces hope.”

“we glory” the Pres/midd/indic of KAUCHAMAI καυχάομαι (our testing brings glory to us and the Lord, if we pass)

“tribulations” The noun **“THLIPSIS”** θλίψις. This is a reference to pressure and is a metaphor for oppression, affliction, tribulation, distress ... everyday problems.

“perseverance” ὑπομονή HUPOMONE (steadfastness or endurance with people or circumstances). This is one of the incredible virtues of the mature believer’s life.

Notice these verses:

Romans 2:7 “to them who by patient continuance in well doing (the internal system of virtue) seek (ZETEO) for glory, honor and immortality.” (pertains to the judgment of God)

Heb.10:36 “for you have need of patience that after you have done the will of God, you might receive the promise.” And then John 6:40 “ this is the will of the him that sent me, that everyone who seeth the son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.”

One more verse about patience: James 1:3-4 “knowing that the trying of your faith produces patience. But let patience have her perfect work so that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting in nothing.”

“Character” δοκιμή (DOKIME) a worthy specimen (well done!!!!)

“Hope” ἐλπίς (ELPIS) the noun for confidence, joyful expectation

Col. Thieme; (Hope must be defined in two categories: confident expectation and absolute expectation with regard to the future. The difference between confident expectation and absolute expectation is your spiritual status. If you have walked through the door of hope (a personal sense of destiny) with God's agenda, then you have converted confident expectation into absolute expectation.

Hope is the monopoly of the believer who is positive to Bible doctrine. 1 Thes 4:13, "that you may not grieve with the rest who have no hope.

Are you seeking to be Christ like?? Get ready to go it alone and have just a small hand full of friends. Let's study the mechanics of following the Lord and see exactly how do we do this?

In **I Peter 2:18-21**, the Apostle Peter speaks of **suffering** wrongfully. He makes a bold analogy in vs :20 and says, **"What credit is it if you (servants) are beaten for your faults and you take it patiently. But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God."**

John speaks of how of the Lord suffered much, even though he did no wrong.... **John 19:6 "I find no fault in him."** (Pilate)

First, we have the mandate from the Apostle Peter:

I Peter 2:21 "For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps."

"... for to this you were called"

This verb **"Called"** is an aorist passive indicative of **"KALEO" καλέω**. In its root meaning it means a summons or invitation.

The **aorist tense** is characterized by its emphasis on punctiliar action; that is, the concept of the verb is considered without regard for past, present, or future time. There is no direct or clear English equivalent for this tense, though it is generally rendered as a simple past tense in most translations.

Passive Voice: The passive voice represents the subject as being the recipient of the action. E.g., in the sentence, "The boy was hit by the ball," the boy receives the action.

Indicative Mood: The indicative mood is a simple statement of fact. If an action really occurs or has occurred or will occur, it will be rendered in the indicative mood.

Principal:

1. Our Lord left us an example and extended to us an invitation to follow him.
2. He functioned on an internal system of virtue called the Protocol Plan of God
3. This system of virtue is in essence, his very life.
4. This includes His thinking and His actions.
5. Our Pastor is giving us a tremendous opportunity to see how the Lord Jesus Christ handled each and every circumstance He encountered while in human form.
6. This **window of opportunity** is critical if we are to ever learn how to follow His example.
7. This study in the Life of Christ is one time that History will actually teach us something, if we listen and apply.

“Because” (HOTI)

This is a conjunction which will now introduces a subordinate clause, which is **the reason you were called** not the content of the call. The Casual Clause introduces the “reason” the Declarative Clause introduces the content.

“Christ also suffered” (CHRISTOS KAI PASCHO)

This verb “suffered” is an **Aorist Active Indicative** (πάσχω)

PASCHO: Means to experience painful sensations. This is not just physical pain but can be **deep emotional hurt** as well. Think about it, the ones he came to deliver, delivered him to the Roman court to be executed. The ones he trusted sold him out. The ones he lived with abandon him under pressure. As he hung on the cross, do you remember the words of **Matt.27:46** “**and about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani, that is to say, My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me?**”

What will you do when your own family sells you out? Abandons you, does not believe you, maybe even turns you in to the governing authorities? **Matt.5:44** “I say unto you, love you enemies, bless them that curse you, do good unto them that hate you, and pray for them who despitefully use you and persecute you.” **Matt.5:39** “whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.”

Luke 12:51 “do you think I came to bring peace on the earth? No I can guarantee that I came to bring division.”

How can we operate in this arena of contention without an internal system of virtue??? (We can't)

Remember **Matt.16:21** “from this time forth began Jesus to show unto his disciples how that he must go unto Jerusalem and suffer many things of the elders and chief priest and scribes and be killed and raised again the third day.”

“**Leaving us an example**” The present active participle of “**HUPOLIMPANO**” (ὕπολιμπάνω) **Leaving**” ...bequeath or leave behind. (His life and testimony is what he left us. It is all recorded for you in scripture.)

“**An example**” **accusative** singular masculine of “**HUPOGRAMMOS**” This word is a “**HAPAX LEGOMENON**” (something said only once) which means it is used only once in the Bible.

Principle:

1. This noun is only used one time in the Greek New Testament
2. It means pattern, or example
3. It is derived from the word “**HUPOGRAPHO**” which literally means, to write under. (**hupo**; a preposition meaning under, and **grapho**, the verb, meaning “to write.”

Put in context, **γράφω** this is an aid given to beginning students learning to write the letters of the alphabet. An alphabetical template.

4. This was a style used to copy a text or work of art much like a tracing.
5. Very similar to a **template** (something which serves as a master pattern from which other similar things can be patterned or molded.)
6. The life of our Lord is our **pattern** or **template**. We are to be cut in exactly the same mold if we are to replicate His life style and thinking as per **Romans 12:2** **“and be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”**
7. Using a tool and die makers analogy, It took our Lord 33 years to produce and refine the template that he has now passed on to us.
8. Living the Spiritual Life (The Protocol Plan of God) will cut you into the image of Christ Jesus our Lord.
9. Using the template produces a perfect fit every time.
10. Mess up the template and the results of reproduction will be distorted.

Notice **I Peter 2:21** again. **“That you should follow”** This is the **orist active subjunctive of “ΕΠΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΕΩ) έπακολουθέω.** **The subjunctive mood indicates your volitional choice.** It means (to be in the same way or to follow after, follow his path, walk in his steps, IE: **RANGER EYES**

Are there any mandates in scripture where the Lord Jesus gives us direction in following him?

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In **Matt.11:28** we find an adverb which is a rare **imperative** pronounced **“DU-TAY” δεϋτε** or in the English **“COME.”** This

same word is used in **Matt.4:19** when our Lord told Peter and his brother Andrew **“FOLLOW”** me and I will make you **fishers of men”** (Do you know why our Lord called so many fishermen?). This is not a request, it is the intent of our Commander (LJC) that we come to him or follow after him.

1. He is our guide when walking the lanes of life.
2. He has gone before us and marked the trail.
3. We can follow his path or veer off into the minefields of life.
4. Every time you show up for Bible class you are fulfilling this mandate.
5. When our Pastor teaches us about the Life of Christ He is identifying the markers the Lord left us.
6. He was here before you. He took point. (Point Man)
7. He identified the minefields of religion, politics, trusted friends and satanic temptation.
8. Never forget, He went through it alone, and so will you.
9. Your friends may desert you, religion will curse you, politics will imprison you your family may reject you.
10. Your Heavenly father will never turn his back on you. **II Chron.16:9** “for the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect towards him.” **Prov. 15:21** “for the ways of man are before the eyes of the Lord and He pondereth all his doings.”

Let’s listen to the complete verse. **Matt.11:28** “Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. :29 **“Take (Aorist Active Imperative of AIRO: I-ro) my yoke upon you and learn (Aorist Active Imper of MANTHANO to increase in knowledge, to be informed) from me, for I am gentle (PRAOS) the descriptive adjective meaning gentle or mild) and lowly (TAPEINOS ταπεινός used metaphorically for humility).”** This same word is used in James 4:6 “God resisteth the proud but giveth grace unto the humble...TAPEINOS) **“in heart”** (KARDIA see doctrine of the heart) **and you will find rest for your souls.”** VS :29 “For my yoke is easy and my burden light.”

Now, let's break it down!

We have two imperative mandates: "TAKE" (αἴρω) (μανθάνω)
"LEARN" (both volitional)

We have two descriptive verbs of the believer or unbeliever
"LABOUR" pres/**act**/ptc (κοπιᾶω) **to work or toil till exhausted**)
"HEAVY LADEN" pres/**pass**/ptc (φορτίζω) **Loaded down with
burden of unwarranted rules (adversity)**

We have "REST" The future /act/indic of (ἀναπαύω) (**anapauo**)
**recover and collect your strength, to refresh you, promised in
two separate places.**

We have two descriptive adjectives of our Lord's personality
profile. "MEEK" (πραῖος PRAOS) **a gentle master** "LOWLY IN
HEART" (ταπεινός TAPEINOS) this is a metaphor for his
humility.

The root word "Tapeinosis" (ταπεινώσις) Body of humility, low
estate. Notice Phil 2:6-7 **"who, being in the form of God, thought
it not robbery to be equal with God but made himself of no
reputation, and took upon himself the form of a servant
(DOULOS) and was made in the likeness of man."**

**James 1:9 Let the brother of low degree (TAPEINOS) rejoice in
that he is exalted."**

We have two more descriptive adjectives of his load he will give
us "EASY" (χρηστός) CHRESTOS meaning fit for use,
manageable pleasant. "LIGHT" (έλαφρός ELAPHROS) not
heavy easy to move.

Principle:

1. The seekers find relief from the burden of religion or guilt, which may in fact be much the same.
2. The peeper continues to struggle with a load that he cannot manage.
3. This explains why seekers can have a RMA in spite of the testing in this arena of contention.
4. The peeper has no hope, and no relief for he must fight to stay afloat
5. As long as you are willing to use your volition to obey these two imperatives, you will find rest.
6. The active voice of **“take”** implies you must **“take action”**
7. The action is to pick up the **“ZUGOS”** and allow the Lord to take the reins.
8. He may need to **“goad”** you a bit so that you will stay on course but your path will be straight.
9. In Hebrews 12, the writer instructs us in matters of sin and discipline. He instructs us in verse 12 **“strengthen your tired arms and weak knees. Keep walking straight paths so that your injured leg won’t get worse. Instead, let it heal.”** (keep moving forward as you recover from your discipline)
10. The peeper has no direction and no one to instruct him. He rejected your advice and seals his own doom. Prov.1:32 **“Fools destroy themselves because of their indifference but whoever listens to me will live without worry and will be free from the dread of disaster.”** Prov. 12:15 **“a stubborn fool considers his own way the right one, but a person who listens to advice is wise.”**

And the main verb: **“COME”** The imperative use of **“DEUTE”**
δεϋτε

The key is to **“LEARN”**. The verb aor/act/imper **“manthano”**
(μανθάνω)

“COME” The imperative use of **“DEUTE”**

“All ye that labor” the Greek text uses the word **KOPIAO** for the word **“LABOR”** It means to be exhausted or tired or weary. The question is “why are you weary.” The answer is, you have been **“heavy laden”**. The Greek word is PHORTIZO φορτίζω (carry a load to heavy, a load placed on you causing some form of discomfort or suffering, mentally or physically). The burden may be self-induced or you may be a victim of Religious intimidation but either way, the burden is real. It may be unbearable, too much to endure in the human realm. Remember **Job 14:1** **“Man born of woman is of few days and full of trouble.”**

Now notice the relief our Savior offers if we obey this mandate.

“I will give you rest” (verb ANAPAUO/ ἀναπαύω): **To refresh or to recover (I Cor.10:13) Future Active indicative**

Matt.11:29

“TAKE” The Aorist Active Imperative of AIRO/ αἴρω. To take up upon one’s self, to lift up.

“YOKE” Here is the key to this verse. The masculine noun **“ZUGOS” ζυγός (the yoke is the template that cuts us into his image).**

What exactly is this **“yoke”**? **1.** It is a metaphorical use of a wooden beam that is attached over the head of a pulling animal, Oxen or Mule. **2.** The yoked one is the subservient one and he is controlled by the one who holds the reins. **3.** It gives the connotation of sub service or a link between two people. **4.** It is our voluntary submission to His rule and direction; a direct mandate to learn and use the Protocol plan of God.

Phil, 1:21a **“For me to live is Christ.”**

1. This is none other than Occupation with Christ.

2. He alone controls our destiny and direction.
3. The only way you will ever have complete fulfillment in life is to recognize what Paul taught. **“For me to live is Christ”**.
Col.3:17 **“and whatever you do in word or deed do all in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”**
4. The greatest enemy to occupation with Christ is self!
5. Arrogance is the deceiver of self through unrealistic self -image.
James 1:22 **“Be a doer of the word and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”**
6. The arrogant one will never pick up the “Yoke” because he seeks to receive and not serve.
7. Picking up that “Yoke” requires reciprocal love motivation.

Why would the Lord mandate us to yoke ourselves to him??

The answer is simple. **Eph. 3:16** **“that he would grant you according to the riches of his glory to be strengthened with might by his spirit in the inner man.”**

Principle: This voluntary submission to the “YOKE” of our Lord will not drain nor weaken you but instead make you stronger.

Without getting into the exegesis of this verse, let me give you some brief principles of application.

1. The invitation is to come to Christ is not merely into a position of physical proximity.
2. **BACKGROUND** This passage was dealing with our Lord pronouncing judgment on the cities that had rejected his ministry and works. In Verse 25 he begins a prayer of thanks for the Fathers revealing Grace and then he goes on to explain the close connection he and the Father have. He then offers this amazing prescription for rest and relief in times of trouble or how to have a fantastic RMA.
3. This is the **“ZUGOS”** prescription for the weary soul.

- a. Definition of the **template** from the *Encarta Dictionary*:
Something which serves as a master pattern from which other similar things can be made. A pattern or a mold.
- b. The **template** left by our Lord is a pattern for our thinking and actions for the purpose and with the results that we should walk in His steps. Doing this will incur the worlds displeasure.
 - a. I have warned you before and I want to remind you once again. Persecution is coming. In terms of anti-Christian thinking, you have not even begun to see the tip of the iceberg.

Matt.10:16 “behold I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, therefore be as wise as serpents and harmless as doves. :17 “But beware of men for they will deliver you up to councils and scourge you in their synagogues; :18 and you will be brought before Governors and Kings for my sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles. :19 “But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you shall speak. For it will be given you in that hour what you should say. :20 “For it is not you who speak but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you. :21 “Brother will deliver brother, Father will deliver children, children will deliver parents and cause them to be put to death. :22 “You will be hated by all for my name sake. But he who endures to the end, shall be **delivered** from persecution.”

DELIVERED: The future passive indicative of **SOZO**/ σωζω. (This word is widely used in the NT with many meanings. Here it means to be delivered from danger or even death. This is not a reference to salvation by works.)

Listen to **John 17:14** “**I have given them your word and the world hated them because they are not of this world just as I am not of this world.**”

Ps.69:4 “they that hate are without cause. They are more than the hairs of mine head.”

Jn.15:20 “if they persecuted me, they will persecute you.”

Phil.1:29 “For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him but also to suffer for his sake.”

d. This **“YOKE”** or **ZUGOS** that our Lord instructs us to pick up and put on is a metaphorical picture of +V to the protocol plan of God. It is an exact copy of the spiritual life tested and deployed by our Lord. We pick it up and put it on, then God the Holy Spirit begins to go to work shaping and molding us until we replicate the life of Christ. How does he do this??? By you hearing and apply the word of God on a consistent basis. Not some 10 minute devotional.

Eph. 2:10 “for we are his workmanship (ΠΟΙΕΜΑ/ ποίημα (a created creation) created in Christ Jesus unto divine good production which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.”

e. This template is invisible and applied to the soul. Paul recognized the finished work of God the Holy Spirit when he said in **Eph.3:16 “so that He would give you according to the riches of His glory, His very own power so that you may be strengthened in the inner man by means of the Holy Spirit.”**

f. **Remember, you cannot pick up the “yoke” if you do not obey the rare imperative of DEUTE or “come.”**

g. The **“YOKE”** is **“easy” (CHRISTOS)** Good/gracious/kind/better His yoke is manageable, and uplifting, gentle and edifying. **I Pet.2:3 “If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.”** This word **“GRACIOUS”** is the same word used here and translated **“EASY.”**

“And the burden is light” (the predicate adjective of
“ELAPHROS” not burdensome/ not harassing

1. Our Lord will never subject you to unrealistic goals nor burden you with unnecessary ritual.
2. Organized religion of our Lords day had many oral traditions that were not mandated by scripture but instituted by religious leaders. Notice I **John 5:3** **“For this is the love of God that we keep his mandates and his mandates are not burdensome.”** (the adjective βαρύς BARUS). This is a metaphor for heavy in weight or severe, stern.
3. Here is something that may surprise you. Our Lord Jesus was a “seeker.” Notice **Lu.19:10** “and Jesus said to him, **“Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham (regenerate); :10 for the son of man came to seek and save that which was lost.”**