

**The New Testament Church**  
***Mentoring More in 2024 – Session 4 – God is in Control***  
**January 21, 2024**  
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I Learning begins in the heart of the Individual – and this is the heart of mentoring (discipleship)

- A. Teaching and Learning in the Home and Church
  - 1. Ephesians 6:1-4 – in the home – coaching and admonishment
  - 2. Matthew 28:18-20 – in the church – enrolling as scholar and being taught
- B. How we receive Truth – Romans 12:2
  - 1. Maintain a humble heart - observation
  - 2. Receive the engrafted Word – meditation (rolling it around in our minds)
  - 3. Practice its truths (Romans 6) – obedience (putting it into action)
- C. So far this year...
  - 1. What it means to mentor – encouragement, teaching, coming alongside
  - 2. We are owned by God – accountability, spirit-soul-body given to Him every day
  - 3. We are to disciple – being a disciple means wherever we are, we make disciples

II God is in Control – *a truth we can encourage one another with in these days*

- A. God is Creator – Genesis 1:1; John 1:1
  - 1. The Creator has a right to design his creation (we are His property)
  - 2. As creator, He has the right to set up His rules
  - 3. He initiates all things – our being, parents, life, salvation
  - 4. Today, we are being taught that there is no God, no Creator, you have no purpose
- B. Colossians 1:13-18
  - 1. v. 13-14 – Jesus Christ has delivered from us from the Kingdom of darkness
    - a. He has delivered into the Kingdom of the Son of His love
    - b. We have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins
    - c. Our sin has been forgiven, yet we must still learn to overcome sin from day to day
  - 2. v. 15 – Christ is the visible image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation
    - a. In the Greek here, the “firstborn” means eternal yet becoming flesh, the incarnation
    - b. Christ's work on the cross to forgive our sin is the ultimate limit on evil
    - c. God in control means there is a limit to evil, a limit to the effects of sin
    - d. If Christ had not been sent things would be a lot worse, no check on sin and evil!
  - 3. v. 16 – By Christ all things – heaven/earth; visible/invisible; all government
    - a. All things were created by Christ – when God “said” in Genesis, it was the Word
    - b. All things were created through Him and also *for Him* – His purpose will be done
    - c. From the foundation of the world (Ephesians 1:4) He chose us in Him!
    - d. God's providential plan from eternity past is the ultimate statement of our purpose!
    - e. He uses even the dung (waste) as fertilizer for our soil! (Is. 28:24-29 ; Lk. 13:8)
  - 4. v. 17 – He is before all things (as creator), and I Him all things consist (held together)
    - a. Without Christ, all things would fall apart – both physically and spiritually
    - b. Heb. 1:3 - *God upholds all things by the word of His power* – fall apart otherwise
  - 5. v. 18 – He is the head of the body, the Church, that He would have preeminence
    - a. Encourage one another, you are chosen to point people to Him
    - b. When tempted to quit, give up, or look upon the darkness and your sin, look to Him!