SON OF HEAVEN

Disciples of the Son of Heaven

What does it look like to be disciples of the Son of Heaven? pursue
understanding
of God's will and
ways as we meet
with him in
Scripture

cultivate

relationships with

God that are real,

conversational

and loving

increasingly learn how to live in and from God's always present kingdom partner with the Holy Spirit in the ongoing process of inner transformation

pursue an ever-expanding understanding of the reality and promise of heaven

pursue
understanding
of God's will and
ways as we meet
with him in
Scripture

partner with the Holy Spirit in the ongoing process of inner transformation

cultivate a relationship with God that is real, conversational and loving

"The most important thing in your life

is not what you do; it's who you become.

That's what you will take into eternity."

Dallas Willard

partner with the Holy Spirit in the ongoing process of inner formation

...my little children, for whom I am again in the anguish of childbirth until Christ is formed in you!

Galatians 4:19 ESV

to form,
to shape,
to fashion,
to mold

Jesus revealed the need for inner *re-*formation...

"Blind Pharisee!
First clean the inside
of the cup, so that the
outside of it may also
become clean."

Matthew 23:26 CSB

"Either make the tree good and its fruit will be good, or make the tree bad and its fruit will be bad; for a tree is known by its fruit."

Matthew 12:33 CSB

Mark 7:20-23 ESV

"What comes out of a person is what defiles him.

21 For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, 22 coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness.

23 All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, moral impurity, promiscuity, idolatry, sorcery, hatreds, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambitions, dissensions, factions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, carousing, and anything similar. Galatians 5:19-21a CSB

"...make the tree good and its fruit will be good...."

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, and self-control.

Galatians 5:22-23a CSB

partner with the Holy Spirit in the ongoing process of inner formation ...be working-out your salvation with fear and trembling.

13 For God is the *One* working in you both the wanting and the working, for *His* good-pleasure.

Philippians 2:12b-13 DLNT

"...make the tree good and its fruit will be good...." partner with the Holy Spirit in the ongoing process of inner formation

2 Corinthians 3:18 MEV

But we all, seeing the glory of the Lord with unveiled faces, as in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory by the Spirit of the Lord.

l feel sure that the one who has begun his good work in you will go on developing it until the day of Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:6 PHILLIPS

What are the primary contributors to this ongoing process of formation?

engaging the Bible as the source of truth and correction the Holy Spirit working within (and around us)

the who you become that you take into eternity our primary relationships (in particular home, work and church)

ordinary life, in all of its messiness and pain

our best
effort at
obeying what
we know to
be God's will

"Everyone is in the process of spiritual formation! Every thought we hold, every decision we make, every action we take, every emotion we allow to shape our behavior, every response we make to the world around us, every relationship we enter into, every reaction we have toward the things that surround us and impinge upon lives – all of these things, little by little, are shaping us into some kind of being." M. Robert Mulholland Jr., from *Invitation To a Journey*