

PAST – PRESENT - FUTURE

Family Life Christian Church – October 21, 2018 – Allan Dunbar

Philippians 3:7-14 (NIV)

Rekindling Our Spiritual Passion

PAST:

PRESENT: A thrilling time to recall the past and to praise God for our present blessings.

Now What?

FUTURE: Concepts from Steven Covey's book –
7 Habits of Highly Effective People
Some examples: *Begin with the end in mind,*
First understand – then be understood, Synergizing

Today, let's build good habits from God's Word!

Not PAST... or sometime in the FUTURE... **Now!**

Define Habit: *Habits are routines of behavior that are repeated regularly, tend to occur subconsciously, without directly thinking consciously about them.*

Romans 15:1-7

7 habits in Romans 15 that will make our spiritual family, our church, what it should be.

HABIT #1. Consideration for Each Other. (vv.1,2).

We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. ²Each of us should please our neighbors for their good, to build them up.

"Those of us who are strong and able in the faith need to step in and lend a hand to those who falter, and not just do what is most convenient for us." (THE MESSAGE)

HABIT #2. The Study of Scripture (v.4).

⁴For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the

Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope".

HABIT #3. Endurance or Steadfastness (v.4).

"...so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope."

HABIT #4. Hope (v.4).

"...in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide. we might have hope."

HABIT #5. Harmony (v.5).

"⁵May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had..."

HABIT #6. Praise (v.6).

⁶so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."

HABIT #7. Following the Example of Jesus. (v7).

"⁷Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God."

He emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, He humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross. (Philippians 2)

If we would choose to develop these 7 habits,

Family Life Christian Church's future will center in being the congregation that God wants it to be...

Not a building... Not dwelling in the past...

Instead... **Living by developing biblical habits like the ones we've looked at today.**