

Inclusion

Script - 1 Cor. 1:4-9

A. Acts 19:11-17

1. God wrought special miracles through the hands of Paul (vs. 11-12).
2. Others wanted to be included in what they saw but they didn't have... (vs. 13-14).
 - a. A belief in Jesus
 - b. Enough knowledge to pursue getting that power in the right way.
3. They got themselves in trouble (vs. 15-16).

B. Inclusion

1. Definition Being part of the whole.
2. Synonyms - Admittance, involvement, add, build' carry, combine, comprise, consist of, cover, encompass, enter, have, hold, incorporate, introduce, receive, accommodate, admit, append, bear, comprehend, constitute, count, embody, embrace, encircle, enclose, entail, implicate, inject, insert interject, interpolate, number, subsume, allow for, be composed of, be made up of, build in, cut in on, make allowance for, make room for, number among, take in, take into account, team with, work in
3. The need for inclusion today
 - a. Success
 - b. Gangs
 - c. Church friendship and fellowship.
 - d. Biblical examples (The thief on the cross Lk. 23:43).
 - e. If you doubt how important this is today then think about young people who have been bullied or adversely affected by the cancel culture of today's digital society.
4. What people are willing to do to obtain this goal
 - a. Go through beatings to be part of the accepted family of gang members.
 - b. Binge drinking to be a part of a fraternity.
 - c. Pay bribes to get their children into the accepted schools.

C. Additional Biblical examples

1. Anaias and Sapphira (Acts 15?).
2. Mt. 21: Lord, Lord did we not ...
3. The sancta Scalia - In Rome.
4. Selling of indulgences in the dark ages.
5. They wanted forgiveness but they brought blemished lambs (Mal. 1:7-14).

D. How do we make 2021 be the year of inclusion?

1. Jack Canfield's advice = picture it. (picture illustration).
2. Include Jesus in all aspects of your life (finances, diet, prayer life, bible study, relationships w/ others).
3. Start a wall of remembrance.