

Friday with Fred – May 12, 2017



### **The Force that Befriends and Sends**

I enjoy working with smart people. My friend, Dr. Dave Anderson, President of Grace School of Theology, is one of those kinds of people. He truly has the perfect blend of a scholar's mind and a shepherd's heart. He also is a bit of a "science guy" and was recently talking about the difference between centrifugal force and centripetal force. Centripetal force is that which moves or pulls an object toward something. Centrifugal force is that which moves or pushes an object away from the center.

The laws of physics and nature are simply a reflection of the mind of God, says Sir Isaac Newton. The author of the book of Hebrews says Jesus not only created all things, but that in Him all things hold together by the word of His power. (Heb. 1:3)

The Apostle Paul declares that Jesus is the creator of all things and that in Him all things hold together. (Col. 1:16-17) Now that is THE FORCE!

The Christian life involves edification through centripetal force as we are drawn closer to Jesus, as we get to know Him more personally and are drawn closer through the ministry of the Holy Spirit. We call it fellowship, the experience of intimacy with the Lord of the all the universe.

As we draw closer to Him we experience centrifugal force moving us away toward others to share the good news that we have and are experiencing. We are drawn in by His love and Spirit and we are pushed out to share His love through the proclamation of the gospel.

Pulled in and pushed out; that is how the church is to operate. We gather as believers to worship the Lord and serve one another through a variety of ministries that use our spiritual gifts. Then we scatter to share the Good News to a lost and dying world.

We call it the Great Commission. Make disciples by Edification (symbolized by "teaching all things that I have commanded you.") and Evangelism (symbolized by "baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.") It seems that the more we experience the fellowship, the more we sense the urgency to engage in evangelism.

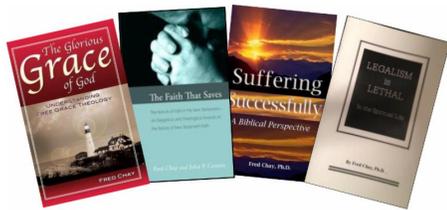
And so, I ask you just as I ask myself--- when was the last time I told someone about Jesus?

Enough said?

Serving Him with you  
Until He comes for us,  
Fred

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