DESTINY TRAINING LEVEL 1
MODULE 1
CLASS 10

BUILDING THE CHURCH

Biblical Reference: And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever (Psalm 23:6b).

I. A NOTE TO THE STUDENT

The Lord Jesus Christ gave us the model for how His Church should be built.

II. CLASS OBJECTIVES

1. To know what it means to truly be a part of the Church and begin to put this into practice.
2. To accept the calling that each one of us has to work together to build Christ's Church.
3. To understand the essence of the G12 Vision as found in the Scriptures.
4. To be willing to be a person used by God for His work.

III. INTRODUCTION

Just as God gave Moses detailed designs for the tabernacle in the Old Testament and then told him, "See to it that you make everything according to the pattern shown you on the mountain" (Hebrews 8:5), the Lord Jesus left us the model for how His Church should be built. What He established does not need change or modification because He does everything perfectly.

When Jesus asked His disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah for this was not revealed to you by man, but by My Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it" (Matthew 16:13-18).

IV. LESSON: PRINCIPLES FOR BUILDING THE CHURCH

A. The Revelation If the Cross

1. Jesus told Peter that upon the revelation that He was the Christ, the Son of God, He would build His church. In Christ and in what He did on the Cross, the prophecies given over thousands of years were fulfilled.

2. The Cross shows us that:
   - Jesus was a better offering than Abel (Genesis 4:4).
   - He is the only Son, offered in sacrifice, just as Abraham had done (Genesis 22:1).
   - He is the Lamb of the Passover that would protect all the firstborn of Israel (Exodus 12:13).
   - He is the David who would defeat the giant (1 Samuel 17:50).
   - He is the one who would be forsaken by the Father (Psalm 22).
   - He is the one who would carry the transgressions and sins of the people (Isaiah 53:4-5).
   - He is the new covenant between God and His people (Jeremiah 31:31-33).

B. A Change Of Nature

1. "And I tell you that you are Peter" (Matthew 16:18a).

2. The nature of human beings remained contaminated from the time of Adam and Eve's sin. Although before Christ, God allowed a partial atonement through the sacrifice of innocent animals in religious ceremonies, all of that was only an image of what was to come. Hebrews draws a powerful analogy for us:

   "The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!" (Hebrews 9:13-14).

3. Here are examples of people in the Bible who received a changed nature after meeting Jesus:

   - Jacob – He deceived his own brother who was also very devoted to the God of his parents, and he needed a change of nature. Jacob achieved this after a night-long struggle with an Angel, and this set him free.
   - Jabez – His mother blamed him for her suffering during his birth, causing her to name him Jabez, which means "affliction." He knew that he needed divine help to be free of this yoke. He raised a prayer to God, crying out for blessing and freedom, and the Lord granted his request (1 Chronicles 4:9-10).
   - Simon – His name means "reed," but Jesus changed his name to Peter, which means "rock" (Matthew 16:18).

- Saul – While on the road to Damascus, the Lord completely changed his nature (Acts 9).
- Believers – When we receive Jesus and experience the new birth, old things are passed away and all things become new (2 Corinthians 5:17). We are now born of God, and we are freed from the yoke of guilt (John 1:13, Romans 8:1).

C. God's Fellow Workers

1. We are God's fellow workers, carefully building the church by the grace of God and keeping Jesus Christ as the Foundation.

   "By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as a wise builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should build with care. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work. If what has been built survives, the builder will receive a reward. If it is burned up, the builder will suffer loss but yet will be saved—even though only as one escaping through the flames" (1 Corinthians 3:10-15).

2. The foundation for building the church that the Lord established is the guide for how each one of us can do the work of the ministry. It requires constant supervision so that our work will not be in vain.

D. The Ladder Of Success

1. The term "Ladder of Success" was first used by Pastors Cesar & Claudia Castellanos, in Bogota, Colombia. It's a simple term we use to describe the process of spiritual growth and development in the life of a Christian who is planted in the Church. It illustrates our journey as Christians to become all that God intends; He wants us to grow strong and to grow up!

2. The Ladder of Success has four steps:

   - Win: To bring a non-Christian to Christ or to bring a backslidden Christian back to Christ
   - Consolidate: To care for the new Christian until the character of Christ is formed in them
   - Disciple: To teach and instruct a Christian to follow Christ wholeheartedly and without compromise
   - Send: To equip a Christian to minister to others

3. The Ladder of Success can be seen in the Great Commission:

   "Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age'" (Matthew 28:18-20).

   - Win: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations…"
   - Consolidate: "…baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit…"
   - Disciple: "…teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you."
   - Send: "And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

4. The Ladder of Success can also be seen in the birth and growth of the first Church:

   "Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day. They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer" (Acts 2:41-42).

   - Win: "…and about three thousand were added to their number that day."
   - Consolidate: "Those who accepted his message were baptized…"
   - Disciple: "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching..."
   - Send: "Paul and Barnabas appointed elders for them in each church and, with prayer and fasting, committed them to the Lord, in whom they had put their trust" (Acts 14:23).

E. G12: A Vision Of Compassion

1. "Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When He saw the crowds, He had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd" (Matthew 9:35-36).

2. This Bible passage teaches us five important factors we can apply to develop genuine compassion in the Church:

   - "Jesus went through all the towns and villages." While walking through the villages, Jesus understood firsthand how these people felt, and He knew their pressing needs. It is necessary to go where all those who hunger and thirst for God are.

- "Teaching in their synagogues." Teaching lifts the veil and brings clear revelation of what God wants for people's lives. God says, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also reject you as My priests; because you have ignored the law of your God, I also will ignore your children" (Hosea 4:6). If the people had known and accepted the Word of God, the Lord would have protected them and kept them in the priesthood, saving their descendants. We must dedicate time to instruct others in the Word so that their lives will take the right path.

- "Preaching the Good News of the kingdom." Preaching the Gospel confronts a person with their sin and leads them to repentance. The Word of God is the only thing that transforms lives, so it is important to teach it simply and to be a living testimony of what God has done in us so that others will long to devote themselves to the Lord.

- "And healing every disease and sickness." The Lord's compassion is so great that He not only shared the message of salvation with them, but He also brought them healing from all medical conditions and sicknesses. We must exercise our authority, in the Name of Jesus, to bring freedom to people suffering from any and all kinds of demonic oppression.

- "When He saw the crowds, He had compassion on them." Jesus knew that there were multitudes that needed His help, and He would not just stand idly by. He was moved with compassion to do something about it! He knew the work was excessive for only one person to do, so He told His disciples to cry out to God in prayer to send workers to His harvest. Later He taught them that the easiest way to reach and help the multitudes is through a team of twelve. This was the first thing Jesus did: He chose twelve disciples to help Him carry out the work of ministering to the multitudes.

3. Remember: you are the temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19-20). We must remain surrendered to the Father and empowered by the Holy Spirit, so like Jesus we can remain in the presence of God, full of His compassion, to reach the multitudes and build His church.

V. CONCLUSION

As Jesus labored, He understood the enormous need people have, and He saw the lack of willing servants. Therefore, He instructed His disciples to pray for laborers. This shows us that in Christian leadership and in order to build His church, we must have people who are willing to serve others and share the Gospel of salvation. True compassion is not just *seeing* the need but *meeting* the need and working together so that the blessing of knowing Jesus can reach the multitudes.