

Study Notes based on Sunday 18 November 2018

Learning from disciples – John (John Farren)

John 1:1-4; Revelation 3:1-3; 9-11

1. Respond to John Farren's assertion that 'Just because you are getting older doesn't automatically mean you are going to grow in Christ.'
2. 'John was a disciple who knew continuous development.' Can you see evidence for this? E.g. from his career as a fisherman to his authorship of the fourth gospel? This son of thunder – an intolerant, ambitious, vindictive man with a volcanic personality becomes the apostle of love. What happened?
3. Comment on John Farren's reference to instantaneous change – those who change instantaneously have a tendency to instantaneously fly back.
4. What does John's commendation of slow but continuous transformation, mean for us? What disciplines can we put in place to facilitate this?
5. In what ways do you see John's gospel as different from the other three? See particularly John 1:1-14
6. If someone were to sit beside you in the sauna and ask what do you think about God? What would you say?
7. John clearly thought about how he would convey Jesus to a Greek audience. How can we prepare to communicate Jesus to the particular kind of people that we come in contact with?
8. Read the Revelation passages. John had learned to recognise the voice of Jesus. He records Jesus as saying 'My sheep hear my voice.' How do we do this? Are John F's suggestions helpful to us – be silent, tune in?

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