

The Relevance of Christian Education for Clergy and Laity

The basis for a Christian education program is given by Jesus in Matthew 28:19-20: making disciples, baptizing them, and “teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.” R. B. Kuiper has observed, “A noteworthy feature of the great commission is that it bids the apostles and the church of all ages to *teach*. In fact, *teaching* is spoken of as their chief missionary task. They are to go in order to *teach*. *Going* is but a means to the end of *teaching*. And they are to *baptize* those who accept their *teaching*. But they must *teach*, whether or not men give heed. And, significantly, they are told not once, but twice, to *teach*”¹

The plan of the research is to find support and understanding for the relevance of Christian education to make us a stronger for the Kingdom. Some clergy may feel no professional educational is needed and some laity may feel that it doesn't take all of that. I believe that a true understanding of Christian education as it is implemented in the lives of believers will impact their person relationships with Jesus Christ.

One of the greatest challenges that I have encountered is the extensive church history that is involved in the research. Also, computer issues from documents scanned from the library. As a student, I am already convinced that Christian Education should be a requirement for Clergy. My mindset is more toward laity and how necessary it is for each of us to be accountable to study for ourselves.

From a methodological standpoint, I plan to continue to research for more books and articles, videos, sermons, and possibly expand my libraries outings.

¹ Rienk Bouke Kuiper, *The doctrine of Biblical church: the glorious body of Christ* (Seoul: Sung Kwang Pub. Co., 1978), 45.

Tentative Outline

- I. Introduction
- II. Historical Perspective
- III. Who is the Laity?
- IV. Who is the Clergy?
- V. How does Christian Education Impact the Kingdom? What Relevance Does It Have?
- VI. Conclusion