**Called to Co-Labor**

**Scriptural Foundations**

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| Romans 3:23 | We are all disabled, and we are also we are also not all disabled |
| I Corinthians 12:14-25 | We are not valuable because of what we do, because of what is different about us, or because of of what others say about us. We are valuable because God made us. |
| John 9:1-3 | Disability is not a blessing but it is also not a curse. |

**Theological Foundation (from *Same Lake, Different Boat*)**

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| Incorrect Assumption #1: | Disability is an abnormal part of life in a normal world |
| Incorrect Assumption #2: | Disability is a normal part of life in a normal world. |
| The Right Conclusion: | Disability is a normal part of life in an abnormal world. |

**What Does the Heidelberg Catechism Say?**

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| Q&A 1: | Therefore, by his Holy Spirit he also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for him (Ephesians 1:13-14, Romans 8:14-15) |
| Q&A 86: | Since we have been delivered from our misery by grace alone through Christ, without any merit of our own, why must we yet do good works?  Because Christ, having redeemed us by his blood, also renews us by his Holy Spirit to be his image, so that with our whole life we may show ourselves thankful to God for his benefits, and he may be praised by us. Further, that we ourselves may be assured of our faith by its fruits, and that by our godly walk of life we may win our neighbors for Christ. |
| Why we do good works? |  |
| Romans 6:13 | Because we are thankful. |
| I Corinthians 6:19-20 | So that God might be praised because of what we do. |
| Matthew 7:17-18 | So that we might be assured of our faith. |
| Matthew 5:14-16 | So that others might be drawn closer to Him. |
| Ephesians 2:10 | Because that’s what we were created to do. |

**We all have a job to do, both in the kingdom of this world and in the eternal kingdom of heaven.**

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| Problem: | 17% of people living in America are living with some kind of disabling condition |
|  | People who live with disabilities are twice as likely to be unemployed and four times as likely to be under-employed. |
|  | 80% of Christian families who have a loved one with a disability do not attend church because they do not feel welcome. |
|  | Churches across America were granted waivers from the Americans with Disabilities Act. |
| Small Problem: | Churches are missing 14% of their potential members just because of their attitudes |
| Big Problem: | Churches are not responding to God’s call as seen throughout the catechism because we are not including people who have disabilities |
| Why: | Because we added an asterisk. But theer is no asterisk. |

**What are the 5 Stages?**

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| Ignorance: | Having no knowledge of life with disabilities, and choosing to keep it that way |
| Pity: | Thinking often only of the difficulty of disability, and never wondering what how we can help. |
| Care: | Recognizing that each person is created in God’s image, we assist in providing for basic needs. |
| Friendship: | Learning to value someone with disabilities, and having a reciprocal relationship with that person. |
| Co-Laborers: | Recognizing that each person is called by God to His service, and that it is part of our job to equip people with disabilities for that service. |

**Conclusion:**

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| Matthew 28:19-20 | The Christian life is not just about being obedient and thankful, it is about making disciples. |
|  | When we do not include people with disabilities, we are not making disciples of them. Neither are we being disciples. |
| Luke 14:21-24 | It is not enough to want to do it. We must do it. |

**Called to Co-Labor**

**Scriptural Foundations**

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| Romans 3:23 | We are all disabled, and we are also \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
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**Theological Foundation**

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| Incorrect Assumption #1: | Disability is an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in a normal world |
| Incorrect Assumption #2: | Disability is a normal part of life in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. |
| The Right Conclusion: | Disability is a normal part of life in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. |

**What Does the Heidelberg Catechism Say?**

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| Q&A 86: | Since we have been delivered from our misery by grace alone through Christ, without any merit of our own, why must we yet do good works?  Because Christ, having redeemed us by his blood, also renews us by his Holy Spirit to be his image, so that with our whole life we may show ourselves thankful to God for his benefits, and he may be praised by us. Further, that we ourselves may be assured of our faith by its fruits, and that by our godly walk of life we may win our neighbors for Christ. |
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| Small Problem: | Churches are missing \_\_\_\_\_\_% of their potential members just because of their attitudes |
| Big Problem: | Churches are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as seen throughout the catechism because we are not including people who have disabilities |
| Why: | Because we added an asterisk. But \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. |

**What are the 5 Stages?**

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| Ignorance: | Having \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of life with disabilities, and choosing to keep it that way |
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| Friendship: | Learning to value someone with disabilities, and having a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ relationship with that person. |
| Co-Laborers: | Recognizing that each person is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to His service, and that it is part of our job to equip people with disabilities for that service. |

**Conclusion:**

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| Matthew 28:19-20 | The Christian life is not just about being obedient and thankful, it is about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. |
|  | When we do not include people with disabilities, we \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of them. Neither are we being disciples. |
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