

Scripture Reflection on the Work of NCFI

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Nurses Christian Fellowship International is an international non-governmental, not-for-profit organization with the aim of building up Christian nurses & students – including Christian midwives, so that they can honour God in every aspect of their professional lives.

NCFI's stated purpose to *connect Christian nurses around the world, equipping them to live out their faith in professional practice* is reflected in Paul's letter to the Colossians (Col 1:28-29).

Through NCFI, member countries and volunteers:

- Join together (Col 1:28 – as indicated in the use of plural pronouns...i.e., 'we')
- Proclaim Christ (v. 28)
- Admonish & Teach (v. 28)

Our goal is to nurture one another so that we can become fully mature in Christ (v. 28), and as Christian professionals, *"integrate Biblical principles and Christ-centered values in clinical practice, leadership, education and research."* (phrase in italics is NCFI's Mission as written in the NCFI constitution).

This takes intentional effort and hard work (Col 1:29). However, unlike the secular world which relies heavily on personal charisma and worldly wisdom, we need to rely on the power and wisdom of Christ that works in and through us, giving us the 'energy' (power) to make (and keep on making) disciples – people who are fully mature in Christ. Jesus told his disciples that all power (authority) had been given to Him (by the Father), and it is in this power that we are to 'go and make disciples of all nations'.

Making disciples involves pointing people to Jesus (i.e., proclamation in word & deed) and teaching in ways intended to produce understanding as well as warning (admonishment) so that we can grow into full maturity in Christ (Col 1:28). This includes growing into Christ in our ways of thinking, being, and doing as professional nurses and midwives. NCFI's teaching and admonishment should be from a biblical worldview AND importantly, delivered with all wisdom (Col. 1:28 & Col 3: 16).

Thus, in whatever aspect of NCFI that you are involved in – prayer, leadership, teaching, resource development, communications, administration, conference planning, research, etc., may we remember that what we do in/through NCFI and our NNCs – and the power to do this work, should come from Jesus; a calling to *proclaim, admonish, and teach everyone with all wisdom so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ* – both ourselves (as we learn from one another) and Christian nurses and midwives around the world!

So let us join together and 'lean on Christ' – His wisdom and power, as we carry out our responsibilities in NCFI and/or our national NCFs. Without Him, all our labour is in vain (Ps 127:1).

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