

Otterbein: A Church That Cares

¹ Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. ² A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. ³ He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. ⁴ So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.

⁵ When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.” ⁶ So he came down at once and welcomed Him gladly.

⁷ All the people saw this and began to mutter, “He has gone to be the guest of a sinner.”

ut Zacchaeus stood up and said to him, "Today salvation has
come to this house, because this man, my brother,
has given half of his possessions to the poor, and has
built a house for Abraham. ¹⁰ **For the Son of Man
came to seek and to save the lost.**"

back four times the amount

Luke 19:

⁹ Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰ **For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”**

Luke 19: 1-10

The Mission of Reaching the Lost

1) Curiosity Opens Doors

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2) Grace Breaks Through Barriers

² A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a **chief tax collector** and was **wealthy**. ³ He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. ⁴ So he **ran** ahead and **climbed** a sycamore-fig tree to see Him, since Jesus was coming that way.

Luke 19: 2-24

Zacchaeus was an insider who chose to
become an outsider.

²⁴ Jesus looked at him and said, “How hard it is for **the rich** to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for **someone who is rich** to enter the kingdom of God.”

Luke 18: 24-25

Zacchaeus was lost. . . but **curious**.

Zacchaeus put himself **physically** where
he could see the Lord, much like every
believer has done.

We have all been created with a **God-shaped hole** in our heart.

Curiosity always proceeds commitment.
Our role is to create **opportunities** for
Jesus to reach the lost.

Otterbein will be a church that continues
to reach the lost.

(Because we affirm everyone in love and
desire to connect people to God, we
should have the mission that we will
reach the lost.)

No one is too far gone. Jesus will save
the most lost of the lost.

Some think that holiness means
separating from sinners and **shunning**
them.

Never decide **who is and **who isn't**
worthy of Christ's redemptive love.**

Don't let the **crowds grumblings** keep
you from knowing Christ or going on
mission with Him.

Reaching the lost often means **loving people** others have written off in order to break down the barriers.

The Mission of Reaching the Lost

1) Curiosity Opens Doors

2) Grace Breaks Through Barriers

3) Repentance Produces Transformation

⁹ Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a **son of Abraham**.¹⁰ For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

Luke 19: 9-10

**Genuine encounters with Christ lead to a
transformed life.**

⁸ But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, “Look, Lord! **Here and now** I give half of my possessions to the poor, and **if I have cheated anybody out of anything**, I will pay back four times the amount.”

Luke 19: 8

Zacchaeus isn't “**earning and deserving**”
his salvation. He is demonstrating the
heart transformation that **comes with**
knowing Christ.

Get rid of social media.

Throw your smartphone away.

Dump out the alcohol.

Shred your green card.

spend quality time with your family.

Ask your spouse for forgiveness.

Take joy in the bride of your youth!

True belief in Christ will always lead to transformative action and nature change, person has an innate desire to connect, but more matter.

am believed the Lord, and Ham believed the Lord, and H
ted it to him as righteousness

Genesis

Genesis

Abram **believed the Lord**, and He
credited it to him as **righteousness**.

Genesis 15: 6

**We exist to make disciples from the 4
corners of our block to the 4 corners of
the world!**

If we want to **reduce** our Christianity to preaching, singing, and a list of do's and don't's, then we might as well be a **social club**.

God has placed us where we are to make
real-life contact with people made in the
image of God so that we can tell them
how to get home.

The Ministering Church

This church is alive, outward-focused, burdened for souls, faithful in prayer, committed to making disciples, and passionate about the gospel. It continually asks, “How can we reach more people for Christ?” The mission drives everything else.

The Maintaining Church

Over time, many churches drift. The focus quietly shifts from reaching people to preserving programs, budgets, buildings, schedules, and traditions. They begin to consume more attention than evangelism and discipleship. **The church is still functioning, but survival gradually replaces expansion.** The question becomes, “How can we keep the plates spinning?”

A church
of Christ
what
today
old days
become

The Monument Church

A church no longer exists to advance the mission of Christ. It exists to preserve the memory of what once was. Yesterday's victories become today's identity. Reminiscing about the "good old days" replace fresh conversations. Traditions become sacred. Change is resisted. **Spiritual vitality gives way to mere existence.**

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Two questions

1) Which of these churches are we?

**2) Which of these churches do we want
to be?**