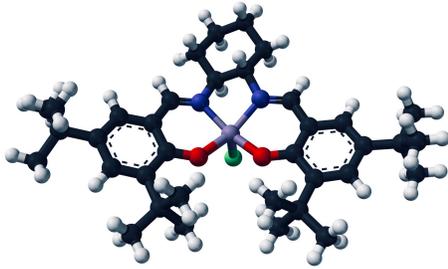


Catalyst Sermon Series 2019



Catalyst is a plan designed to spark conversations and build community around the Vision and Mission of Christ Covenant Church for a the re-planting of a church at 3100 Covenant Road in 2019.

Our Mission is what we do: *Worship, Life, and Ministry Together*. Our Vision is what we long to see: *A movement of the gospel that will bring personal conversion and renewal, community formation, and generous lives serving others for cultural renewal in Columbia and beyond*. Each week we will be unpacking a portion of the vision enabling us to see why we do what we do.

God Builds Community

You can listen to our first four sermons in Catalyst Sermon Series, *Gospel Centrality* from Galatians 2:11-21, *Stewarding a Gospel Movement* from 1 Peter 2:4-12, *God Seeks Worshipers* from John 4, and *God Builds Community* from Acts 2:37-48 at www.ccotc.org/sermons.

We learned that *Gospel Centrality* is what God does that effects everything we do. Gospel centrality has an order, a function, and a power. The 2nd Sunday in the series we learned that *Stewarding a Gospel Movement* is necessary for *Gospel Centrality* to be effective and not just “believed”. Stewarding a Gospel Movement requires God’s presence, his gifts, and his grace. The third week we looked at *God Seeking Worshipers* in the story of Jesus and the Samaritan woman in John 4. He’s seeking a diversity of worshipers everywhere that he changes by his power in Jesus Christ for his glory. Last week we saw that God builds these worshipers into a community. Here’s a summary of last weeks message.

What God’s Community Is

God’s community is a common participation in God through faith in Jesus Christ. The first church in Jerusalem “were together” (Acts 2:44). The church did many things together, but their doing together was the result of their common relationship to God by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. God built his community by grace. The community that God builds were together, not because of the sameness of language, race, sex, societal status, or culture. They were together in the midst of great diversity because of their relationship to God in Jesus Christ.

What God’s Community Does

The three activities of the early church that was together was learning, loving, and liturgy. They got together to sit under and learn from the apostles’ teaching (Acts 2:42). They did this in large groups at the Temple, but also in their homes. The apostles’ teaching was the knowledge of God and his will revealed in Jesus Christ through the Old Testament Scriptures. God’s community loves to learn of Jesus and his righteousness.

Secondly, this community loved. They had fellowship with one another. They were together with glad and generous hearts (2:47). They ate together and showed hospitality toward one another (2:46). They met one another’s needs out of what God gave to them (2:44-45). They found favor with their neighbors also (2:47). They did good to all especially those of the household of faith.

Third, this community did liturgy. They heard the word of God preached, they celebrated the Sacraments of baptism and the Lord’s Supper, and they prayed together, praising God, confessing their sins, and make intercession for others (2:38-42). They met together in the temple for liturgy and even in small groups in their homes. Their community practiced liturgy - the habits of worship that shaped and formed their lives.

What Keeps God's Community Growing

God's community grew because they delighted in God and this was expressed in their words and deeds (2:47). Their life and their words were the expression of their glad hearts in God. This was infective toward one another in the community and those outside of the community, who God was bringing to the community through their words and deeds. The community that God built did not put up walls. The same grace that drew them into the community in their common participation in God was expressed through the lives of the community causing them to grow in maturity and exponentially.

At Christ Covenant Church we long to see a movement of the gospel that brings about personal conversion and renewal creating community. We value a community that is a common participation in God through faith in Jesus Christ expressed in the diversity we seek and God brings. We value a community that learns together, loves together, and does liturgy together. We value a community that continues to grow together as we express our delight in God through words and deeds.

Catalyst Conversations...Sign Up for One in the Narthex at Barnwell St.

Please take the opportunity to participate in a Catalyst Conversation by signing up after Worship or Life Groups. Catalyst Conversations are an opportunity for you to participate with other church members, regular attenders, and guests in a discussion around CCC's Vision and Mission. We desire that you have an opportunity to engage yourselves and affirm together what we believe is God's biblical vision for his church. The Catalyst Conversation is a small group gathering of 8-10 people facilitated by a couple (husband & wife) who will be prepared to lead the discussion. You will be discussing questions like:

- ❖ Why is it important for a particular church to have a vision and mission?
- ❖ Why could the CCC Vision and Mission be timeless, used now and in the future?
- ❖ What do you like about the Vision and Mission of Christ Covenant Church?
- ❖ What questions or concerns do you have?

The Conversations will begin mid February and conclude by March 31. Our facilitators are:

- ❖ Peter & Samantha Wilkerson
- ❖ Ryan & Morgan Evans
- ❖ Brad & Loretta Carnahan
- ❖ David & Amanda Campbell
- ❖ Jordan & Makala Smith
- ❖ Lawton & Emily Greenwood
- ❖ Scott & Sandy Dinkins

We desire that the Catalyst Sermon Series and the Catalyst Conversations will lead us as a church toward a planning process for the re-planting of Christ Covenant Church at 3100 Covenant Road. Therefore, your participation in these conversations is vital to God building a community of followers of Jesus Christ at Christ Covenant Church who do worship, life and ministry together for his glory and the good of the city. Thank you for signing up to participate.

Hope for the City Saturdays

On the first Saturday of February (2/2/19) 9:00 - 12:00 we will begin a new initiative to love the city in doing ministry together. This doing good in mercy and justice in the city is an expression of our love to God and those around us.

On **Saturday February 2, 2019 from 9:00 - 12:00 we will be doing ministry together at Jane Baskin's home 316 Summerlea Drive in Columbia.** Jane was a long time member of Covenant Presbyterian Church and is now a member of Christ Covenant Church. Jane is full of the love and joy of her Savior, but is hindered by physical disabilities. Her home is in need of our care. We will be gathering there to do yard work and some home repairs. Here are some things you can bring for our ministry together:

- ❖ Wheel barrows and tarps
- ❖ Weed eaters and mowers
- ❖ Ladders
- ❖ Trash bags
- ❖ Pruner and hedge clippers
- ❖ Gloves
- ❖ Material you may have to repair a chain link fence