

SERMON TITLE: Multiplying Our Community to Reach Our Community (Part 2)

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 16:13-18

DATE: May 14, 2023 PASTOR: Jason Malone

## SERMON SUMMARY

The picture of "church growth" we see in Acts chapters 2-4 is that God grew the church as the church focused on being the church. Growth was never the goal; it was a by-product—the by-product/the outcome of a church committed to Gospel-preaching, prayer, fellowship, unity, generosity, and caring for people both inside and outside the community of faith. When a church gives itself to these things, God grows the church as He sees fit. All numerical growth is God's doing. It is the evidence that His "great grace" is at work in and through His people (Acts 4:33).

## SUGGESTED COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS

- Read Matthew 16:13-28
- Share details about your personal "circle of accountability" with your community group. (Neighborhood, Place
  of Employment, School) and share the names of anyone in your circle of accountability that is close to you but
  far from God. Take time and pray for those people and yourself...that you would live with gospel intentionality
  in their midst.
- Share the ways you have seen Jesus be faithful to His promise to build His church.
- What are you currently praying about that is in step with the mission of God that only God can do?