

### 3 The Churches Mission Series: What is The Church

Various Scriptures      November 28, 2018

What we have **Learned** about The Church Thus Far

The Church is not our Church but **Christ's Church**.

The Church is being **Built** by Jesus.

The Church is **Controlled** by Jesus.

The Church is not a Building but is a **Body** of Believers

The Church is place of **Encouragement**.

The Church is a place of **Comfort**.

The Church is a place of **Participants**.

The Church is a place of **Compassion**.

Today those who are **Non-Believers** whether **Agnostic** or **Atheist**, have usually been hurt by the Church. Or have become fed-up with Ritualistic Religion that says one thing and does another.

True Christianity is **NOT** a religion but is a Personal Relationship with Jesus Christ!

The church is a **creation of God** Acts 20:28; 1 Corin 3:9, 17; 15:9, founded and owned by **Jesus Christ** "I will build My church" Matt 16:18 and directed & energized by the **Holy Spirit** 1 Corin 10:17; 12:5-27; Rom 12:4-5.

Therefore, it is the church's joy to look to God to explain His design for the church and His mission for it. **God's mission** for the church proves to have several parts. We'll list them, then summarize them:

I. **The Churches Mission** is to **Evangelize and Make Disciples.** (**Matthew 28:19-20**) **Go** therefore and **make disciples** of all nations, **baptizing them** in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> **teaching them** to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Jesus is the **Gospel** which means **Good News!**

**All Believers are to spread The Gospel.**

The word translated **Evangelist** literally means **"Bringer of Good News."**

**Evangelism** is the engine that drives the Church. Any Church that ignores Evangelism will soon find itself self-replicating and turning inward serving itself.

➤ **What we need to realize** is that **Making Disciples is a Lifestyle.** (19) **Go** therefore...

**Go** = **As you are; Going** through life, **Proceeding** through life, **Traveling** through Life, **Following** Jesus through Life, **Journeying** through Life, **Walking** through Life, **Living** your life, **Conducting** your life.

Every aspect of your life is to be **Making Disciples!** **Which sharing The Gospel or Bringing The Good News of Jesus Christ**

➤ **Making Disciples** is **Inclusive.** (19) and **make disciples** of **all nations,**

- **Making Disciples** is Identifying with Christ.  
(19) baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
- **Making Disciples** is Continuous Training (20) teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.

Believers are all Teachers!

Believers are all Learners!

II. **The Churches Mission** is to Epitomize and glorify Christ. (**Ephesians 1:11-12**) In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, <sup>12</sup> so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory.

- **We Epitomize Christ** as we have been Chosen by Christ. (11) In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will,
- **We Epitomize Christ** that we might Glorify Christ. (12) so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory.

**1 Corinthians 11:1** Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ

We are most like Jesus when we are servicing others.

**Philippians 2:3-7** Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, <sup>4</sup> not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. <sup>5</sup> In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: <sup>6</sup> Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; <sup>7</sup> rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

**III. The Churches Mission** is to Energize and Build up the saints. (**Ephesians 4:11-14**) And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, <sup>12</sup> to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup> until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, <sup>14</sup> so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.

- **God Established** The Leadership: (**11**) And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers,

### In Order To:

- **Equip** The Membership (**12**) to equip the saints
- **Engage** in Ministry (**12**) for the work of ministry
- **Edify** The Body (**12**) for building up the body of Christ,

- **Effect** The Unity in The Church (13) until we all attain to the unity of the faith
- **Expand** Their Knowledge of Christ (13) and of the knowledge of the Son of God,
- **Enact** The Maturity of the Believer (13) to mature manhood,
- **Enlarge** The Station of The Believer (13) to the measure of the stature
- **Exist** in The Fullness of Christ (13) of the fullness of Christ,
- **Enable** The Believers Ability to Stand Firm! (14) so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.

**1 Peter 2:2** Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation

**Ephesians 4:15** Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,

### **Characteristics of a Baby:**

**The mission of the church** is to know and love Christ so supremely as to represent Him and His values accurately and vividly to the world and serve people's deepest needs in the way Christ Himself would meet them. As **W. C. Robinson** says in *Baker's Dictionary of Theology*, "Our Lord Jesus

Christ is the sun about which the whole mission of the church revolves. Public worship is the encounter of the risen Redeemer with His people; evangelism is calling men to the Savior; publishing the law of God is proclaiming His lordship; Christian nurture is feeding His lambs and disciplining His flock; ministering to the needs of men is continuing the work of the Great Physician.”

**The church’s mission** is to present Jesus Christ to the world, while He presents to the same world His rescuing work in and through His church.

**As your Pastor** it is my **Primary Responsibility** to **Equip** The Membership **(11)** To **Engage** in Ministry **(12)** To **Edify** The Body **(12)** To **Effect** The Unity in The Church **(13)** To **Expand** Your Knowledge of Christ **(13)** To **Enact** The Maturity of the Believer **(13)** To **Enlarge** The Station of The Believer **(13)** To **Exist** in The Fullness of Christ **(13)** To **Enable** The Believers Ability to Stand Firm **(14)**!

**It is Your Responsibility** to **Pursue Growing in Christian Maturity** through the opportunities established here at Gateway Baptist Church!

**To be a Church on Fire** we must Engage in The Mission of The Church. Which is to Reach a World in need of a Savior!

**Luke 19:10** For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

**Praise Team Takes The Platform**