

THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH – Part I

“Back to the Basics”

We are moving into a new beginning at Hillcrest church. Our doors are open and we are rebuilding our church. In doing this it is necessary to consider what it is that we are trying to build. The church has been given a mission, which means we must rebuild according to the divine blueprint. Today's teaching will take us back to the basics by focusing our attention on the essentials of building the church.

#1. THE CHURCH IS A SENT COMMUNITY, John 20

- A. God sent Jesus into the world, John 17:18
- B. Jesus sent the apostles into the world, John 17:18, 21
- C. God & Jesus sent the Holy Spirit, John 16:7-10
- D. God sends all believers, John 20:20

#2. THE CHURCH IS A UNIFIED COMMUNITY, John 17:23

- A. Jesus prayed for unity among believers
- B. Jesus prayed that unity reveals his being sent
- C. Jesus prayed that unity reveals God's love

#3. THE CHURCH IS AN EMPOWERED COMMUNITY, Acts 1:8

- A. The Holy Spirit facilitates the mission
- B. The Holy Spirit lives in God's people
- C. The Holy Spirit is sent like Jesus was sent, John 16:7-11

#4. THE CHURCH IS A WITNESSING COMMUNITY, Acts 1:8

- A. God's people are to bear witness to the truth
- B. God's people share their experience with Jesus
- C. God's people bear witness to the resurrection, 4:2, 33

#5. THE CHURCH IS AN EXPANDING COMMUNITY, Acts 1:8

- A. Mission starts in the local church - Jerusalem
- B. Mission eliminates a fortress mentality
- C. Mission means our doors are open

#6. THE CHURCH IS A PRAYING COMMUNITY, Acts 1:14

- A. God's people must be prayed up
 - B. God's people must be totally dependent on him
 - C. God's people must be devoted to prayer, Col 4:2
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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

#1. What does it mean for today's believer to be sent?

#2. Why is unity in the body of Christ crucial to fulfilling the mission? (John 17:20-23)

#3. What was the purpose of sending the Holy Spirit after Jesus' ascended? (John 16:7-11, Acts 1:8)

#4. In what way(s) was it for the disciples' good that Jesus ascended and sent the Spirit?

#5. What does it mean to be a witness for Christ? (Acts 1:8, 4:2, 33)

#6. In what way(s) can we be witnesses for Christ at Hillcrest Church?

#7. Acts 1:8 informs us that the mission starts in Jerusalem and spreads outward. Where is our Jerusalem?

#8. In what way(s) is prayer essential to fulfilling the mission of the church? (Acts 1:12-14)

#9. Why is the prayer ministry the least attended ministry of the church?

#10. What is your takeaway from this teaching?

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

John 20:21: Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

John 17:20-23: My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, ²¹ that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— ²³ I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

Acts 1:8: But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

John 16:7-11: But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸ When he comes, he will prove the world to be in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹ about sin, because people do not believe in me; ¹⁰ about righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; ¹¹ and about judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.

Acts 1:14: They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HILLCREST CHURCH IS OPEN!

CHILDREN'S WORKERS

We need help in the children's ministry. If you are willing to help contact Melissa.

MEDIA HELP

You will be trained to help in broadcasting the service on zoom and working with the sound system. See Johanna or DJ if interested.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

JOIN US ONLINE FOR

Tuesday Bible study at 6:30 Wednesday study & Prayer at 6:30 Click the zoom link on the home page of the website Hillcrestroseville.com

FOLLOWING COVID GUIDELINES

- Wear a mask
- Social distance
- No food or beverages will be served
- Hand sanitizers are available in the building
- If you have any symptoms please stay home
- Let common sense prevail

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