# **BASIC CHURCH – Part I** "The Big Picture"

We've been doing a lot of teaching on telling the Jesus story and we have heard a lot of testimonies on Sunday morning. How does all this testimony training tie into the mission of the church? In Pastor Bruce's new series "Basic Church" he is going to examine what the Bible says about the purpose for which the church exists. This is important so that we don't lose sight of the basics and we stay on track to accomplish the mission Jesus gave us.

#1. THE CHURCH IS A 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

NOTES:

### #2. THE CHURCH IS A \_\_\_\_\_ 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

### NOTES:

# #3. THE CHURCH IS AN 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

### NOTES:

©Pastor Bruce Guckelberg, PhD, March 5, 2023

### #4. THE CHURCH IS A 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 NOTES:

# #5. THE CHURCH IS AN \_\_\_\_\_ 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

### NOTES:

### #6. THE CHURCH IS A 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

### NOTES:

ANSWERS: Sent, Unified, Empowered, Witnessing, Expanding, Praying.

### **QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION**

#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?

# Welcome to Hillcrest Church

# Love, Acceptance, Forgiveness!

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."

Acts 1:8

March 5, 2023 Pastor Bruce Guckelberg, PhD

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS!

Thank you for visiting us this morning. We hope you have a blessed time of worship.

### TODAY

Pastor Bruce is beginning a new series titled "Basic Church." This teaching will examine the mission that Jesus gave to the church and bring clarity to the purpose for which we exist.

### **NEXT SUNDAY - DAYLIGHT SAVINGS**

Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup> set your clocks ahead one hour. Jeff McAuliffe will bring an inspiring message to the Hillcrest family.

### **ONLINE GATHERINGS**

Prayer Meeting: Tuesday at 7pm with Pastor Tim Brooks

Session 4, Wednesday at 6:30 – 7:45pm: "Telling the Jesus Story Well" training with Pastor Bruce, Paul and Pat Milton. Go to the online meeting room on our website (hillcrestRoseville.com) to access the gathering.

### **PROJECT "WINDOW 23"**

Thus far \$1,850 has been donated to pay for the \$5,000 window project. Make sure you write building fund in the memo of your check or envelop if you contribute to this project. Thank you!

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Our offering box is in the back of the sanctuary. You can place your tithes and offerings there, or you can visit our website and give online (hillcrestroseville.com).

### APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup> – SATURDAY SPRING CLEANING

Saturday April  $1^{st}$ , from 9 – noon. Coffee, snacks and lunch will be provided.

### APRIL 2<sup>ND</sup> – PALM SUNDAY

After the service help prepare the Easter egg hunt for the children. Snacks and beverages will be provided

### GOOD FRIDAY REFLECTIONS – APRIL 7<sup>th</sup>, 6PM

# EASTER SUNDAY – APRIL 9<sup>th</sup>

Who can you invite to the service

### EAST INDIAN DINNER - SATURDAY, APRIL 22<sup>nd</sup>, 5:30PM

Join the Hillcrest family for our annual East Indian Dinner, which features authentic East Indian food that is delicious! The purpose of the dinner is to raise money for the Kibaale Community school in Uganda and the Great Commission Fund.

### **CHURCH IN THE PARK – JUNE 4TH**