

## **Greetings!**

Hello, it is the 4<sup>th</sup> week of Church online during the CCP-Corona Virus Isolation.

Please continue to pray for God's Glory, the increase of Christ's Kingdom and salvation of lost people, wisdom for our national, state and local leaders in all of our countries, health and healing for people and for our church and each other.

Also, please don't forget to do your online giving or mail your donation; the expenses remain the same, while giving is much lessened. But praise God, we are surviving and developing a new form of ministry for us... Online services! I hope to keep these going after the Isolation too.

## **Sermon Outline:**

God Encounters: They change people. Some of the ones I mentioned during this sermon series were: Ezekiel 1:1-28, the conversion of the Apostle Paul on the Road to Damascus and Isaiah's vision. Let's look at one of them:

### **Isaiah 6:     Isaiah's Commission**

<sup>Isa 6:1</sup> In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple. <sup>Isa 6:2</sup> Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. <sup>Isa 6:3</sup> And they were calling to one another:

“Holy, holy , holy is the LORD Almighty;  
the whole earth is full of his glory.”

<sup>Isa 6:4</sup> At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke. <sup>Isa 6:5</sup> “Woe to me!” I cried. “I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty.”

<sup>Isa 6:6</sup> Then one of the seraphs flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. <sup>Isa 6:7</sup> With it he touched my mouth and said, “See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for.”

Isa 6:8 Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

Isa 6:9 He said, "Go and tell this people:  
" 'Be ever hearing, but never understanding;  
be ever seeing, but never perceiving.'  
Isa 6:10 Make the heart of this people calloused;  
make their ears dull  
and close their eyes.  
Otherwise they might see with their eyes,  
hear with their ears,  
understand with their hearts,  
and turn and be healed."

### **Review & Highlights:**

When God encounters someone they ought to be T\_\_\_\_\_ & M\_\_\_\_\_.

### **Christian Coop?**

The sad model of the American Church: 'a Sunday m\_\_\_\_\_ theater owned by a Christian co-op that raises money at its performances to fund hiring a counselor and program director for their children.'

"Missio Dei" translates 'the M\_\_\_\_\_ of God' and refers to the atonement and the redemption of all who put their faith in Jesus Christ, the reclaiming of the world by God and the mission program of The Church as He has sent us to proclaim this in the whole world and make disciples of all nations.

We ought to be cooperating with the Mission of God. Are we are Christian Co-op or cooperating Christians?

### **'No, Lord' is illogical:**

You might just as well try to take f\_\_\_\_\_ out of a meal or w\_\_\_\_\_ out of a tree if you think you can take obedience out of Christian discipleship.

### **Titus 3:12- closing:**

Even though this is the closing of an epistle, there are things we can mine in here, there are treasures there...

*Tit 3:12 As soon as I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, because I have decided to winter there. Tit 3:13 Do everything you can to help Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way and see that they have everything they need. (Tit 3:14 Our people must learn to devote themselves to doing what is good, in order that they may provide for daily necessities and not live unproductive lives. )*

*Tit 3:15 Everyone with me sends you greetings. Greet those who love us in the faith.  
Grace be with you all*

There are quite a few observations that you can glean from this short closing passage. For our purposes today, we are just going to look at three:

### **Team, Send and Full Time**

**T.E.A.M.:** T \_\_\_\_\_ Everyone Achieves More

There are the go-ers on the team, there are the senders too & all should be praying!

#### **Send:**

These missionaries on Paul's team were supported by established Churches and mature Christians, that is what "s\_\_\_\_\_" meant back then.

And what were these missionaries doing full time? They were making disciples of unbelievers and believers. Unless this and revival happens, there is no glue to hold the church together. We will keep growing in attendance and then losing people.

Do you keep in touch with people who stood n\_\_\_\_\_ you at a concert?

Discipleship is relationships... It is disciplined, applied study in a relationship, empowered by the Holy Spirit

#### **Full Time**

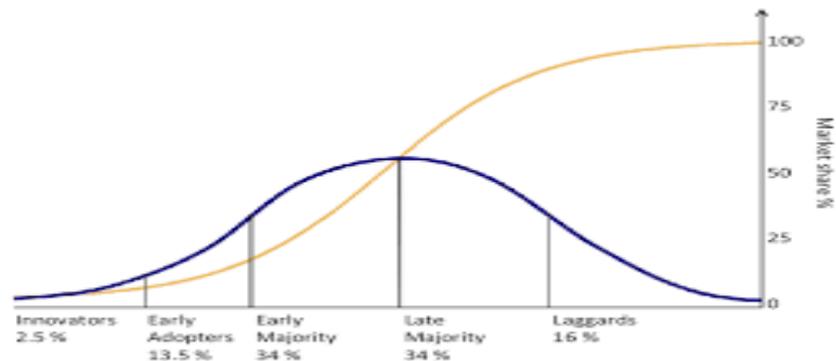
These people could not have traveled around or taken direction from Paul to go here or there if they were not full time committed to this work. We often miss this because we can go on a short term mission trip and be back in a week. We can go to Belle Vernon, shop and be back in an hour if there are no lines. Do you know how long it took to go to Belle Vernon in the 1800's? It was probably an all day event.

#### **Conclusion of these observations:**

The reason we had this vision is because that is how you should start a church: Full time teams meeting lost people and discipling believers and unbelievers, developing leaders and celebrating harvest (when the time comes) until a church forms.

### Life Cycle:

All life cycles follow this general curve:



Introduction (often a long stage before it takes off); Growth, Early Maturity, Maturity, Decline or Renewal of Life Cycle...

In the beginning of a church p\_\_\_\_\_ : LIFE looking for structure

Later, in the decline of a church: Structure looking for L\_\_\_\_\_.

When Christianity starts to be in a decline, we are looking for people to fill out our structures.

When we skip the structures in the cycle where the start of the growth occurs (by organizing around celebrations (S\_\_\_\_\_ Morning services) of harvests, before we have made disciples and actually have a harvest, then we skip the whole growth part, the golden years... and jump right to the problems of decline... We are back to trying to fill our structures with Life (people).

John Wesley, 'If I had 300 men who feared nothing but God and hated nothing but sin and were determined to know nothing among men but Jesus Christ and Him crucified then we could set the world on fire!'

The very heart of ministry is to go out to the people who Jesus left His Throne in Heaven for... and connect with them. That is ministry. Everything else is celebrating that we did. So, when we skip doing it and just celebrate it, we end up wondering why our buildings are e\_\_\_\_\_.

In the ancient world, SEND meant s\_\_\_\_\_...

### **The Story of the Praying Hands...**

### **Moravian Missionaries 99 years...**

**Vision:** We are raising funds, as the part of the team that is to do the 'SENDing' so that we can fund a team to make friends with the lost and to do discipleship (training people up so that our church won't keep getting high in numbers then crumbling, high in numbers then crumbling and so on...) Some of us may end up joining in the GOing of the work part time or full time.

**Folks we are at war... we spend out entire lives caught in a spiritual battle ground that we cannot see unless God opens our eyes.**

Some of us have had a glimpse, an opening up into the spiritual realm.

I hope that we all can have a God Encounter and live transformed lives for Jesus Christ – but I can't conjure it up with my words; but maybe God will use my words to plant seeds from God's Words into your hearts and The Holy Spirit can come and bring it to life.

I live my life played out on the floor of the throne room of God but I just couldn't see it...

Give up your small ambitions.

Answers: ransformedobliizedorningoodoodogetherendearlantifeundaymptyomething