

Our Mission

Overview

Sunday, January 4, 2015

Matthew 28:18-20

I. Introduction

“The Church exists for mission...the church does not exist for itself. This collides head-on with self-indulgent ego-driven psycho-babble mentality that dominates evangelicalism.” Bill Hull

“When we understand the mission of God, we realize that it is the mission that has a church, not the other way around. God has a mission – to call people to worship and exalt the Son through the work of the Holy Spirit. God is the sending agent and the church is the active outworking of the mission.”

“The work of the church is the mission of God.” Brad House

II. Our Mission Statement

Mission statements are inevitably broad, but they can have a clarifying force that summarizes well what a church is about. Our attempt at capturing our defining values is found in the following statement:

“We exist to glorify God through proclaiming the gospel to every person by the power of the Holy Spirit, making disciples, living out the gospel in our relationship with Jesus Christ and others in the context of the local church.”

Here is phrase-by-phrase breakdown of this statement...

“We exist...”

We exist because people took action and believed in the words recorded in Matthew 28:18-20.

“...to glorify God...”

*“So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”
(1 Cor. 10:31)*

“...through proclaiming the gospel to every person...”

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16)

“...by the power of the Holy Spirit”

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and Samaria, and to the end of the age.” (Acts 1:8)

“...making disciples...”

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations...” (Matthew 28:18a)

“...living out the gospel in our relationship with Jesus Christ...”

“Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ...” (Phil. 1:27a)

“...and others...”

“that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel...” (Phil. 1:27c)

“...in the context of the local church.”

“I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.” Matt 16:18

“Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior.” (Eph. 5:23b)

III. Our Mission and You!

In order for us to succeed in our mission we need YOU! This mission will not be successful unless each of us takes ownership. To own our mission is to take possession of it. To internalize it where you can teach it and live it.

“Ownership inspires passion and leads to action.” Brad House

Our ability to own the mission comes from the fact that we are owned by Christ. This is God’s mission and therefore since we are owned by him, we will own his mission.

Ownership must be shared by every member.

“Ownership is marked by joy-filled sacrifice that sees kingdom work as a ‘get to’ because of what Christ has done, rather than a ‘got to’ out of Christian duty. Ownership looks like people serving the church and the city with a passion for the gospel.” Brad House

IV. Conclusion

- 1) What do you think Brad House means when he says, “The work of church, is the mission of God?”
- 2) What part are you to play in our mission?
- 3) Brad House says, “Ownership inspires passion and leads to action.” Do you agree with this statement and why?
- 4) Do you look at ownership as ‘get to’ or ‘got to?’