

Apply The Word

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Message Info

Title:

The Mission of the Church

Speaker:

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Scriptures:

Various

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Theme: The mission of the church is to multiply the likeness of Christ through the earth.

Introduction: Years ago, Coca-cola embarked on a mission to make Coke the most popular drink in the world, and they have been successful. However, much of the world still lives without a clear gospel witness at present. So the question rises: what is the mission of the church and how do we go about fulfilling it? Genesis 1:26-28 is man's original mission statement, and it informs our mission to the world.

Here are 3 elements of the church's mission:

1. Made and remade like Christ

Jesus came to fulfill the mission of bearing God's image (Heb 1:3; Col 1:15)

He also reconciled all things in himself (Col 1:19-20)

In his image, we are being transformed more and more (2 Cor 3:18a)

Both by demonstration and proclamation we are to show the image of Jesus.

The church has done this throughout history and it has changed the world.

2. Together like Christ

The Lord gives leaders for the whole church to be built up (Eph 4:11-13).

Our growth is not individualistic—it's to build up the body.

The mission of the local church is to image Christ and to make disciples who will multiply that effect.

3. Sent like him

Jesus is the sent one (over 60 times in John's Gospel; e.g., 20:19-23; 3:17; 17:3-25).

He showed consistent compassion for the lost and a desire to see laborers sent out to reach them (Matt 9:35-37).

As we are conformed into Jesus' image, we will have a similar heart for the lost.

Questions:

1. How is God at work in and through you to magnify Christ more?

2. How are you seeking to build up the church?

3. How is the Lord calling and using you in his mission?