

Apply The Word

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Message Info

Title:

Go Global by Focusing
Local

Speaker:

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Date:

August 27, 2023

Scriptures:

Various

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Theme: To advance the global mission, build up the local church.

Introduction: In Scripture, busybodies are persons who do not focus on their own responsibilities, but instead insert themselves into the affairs of others (2 Thess 3:11-12). They demonstrate the danger of losing focus on what we're supposed to do. That principle pertains to us all, both as individuals and as a local church. It is harmful to focus on the wrong things. We need to understand the place of the local church in God's mission if we are to live rightly as God's people.

Here are 3 ways to examine our focus:

1. Attain situational awareness

Where do we fit in God's global purposes for the ages? Acts 1:6-11 tells us: we are the uttermost parts of the earth.

We are limited, by God, and we must stay within his limits.

As in Acts, the Lord builds his church and we are to confident in him.

2. Establish and develop our outpost

A failure of focus can lead to deadly results, and this is especially true for the church. The local church is mission critical.

We can be confident that if we stay on task, the Lord will use and bless us.

That includes both developing our building as a tool, and, more importantly, proclaiming the gospel to succeeding generations.

3. Accomplish this together

One of the key ways we demonstrate our belonging to Christ is by our love for one another (Phil 1:27, "a life worthy of the gospel")

That love produces unity, which is an essential fruit of God's work amongst us. It also helps us to multiply our efforts and to carry one another's burdens (Ps 133:1).

Questions:

1. Are you aware/convicted of any misplaced priorities in your life?

2. Are you able to give with faith and in unity?

3. How does the gospel fuel your desire to share its good news and to support gospel work?