

Apply The Word

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Message Info

Title:

The Mission of the Church: What It Is

Speaker:

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Date:

September 17, 2023

Scriptures:

Various

"The mission of the church is to go into the world and make disciples by declaring the gospel of Jesus Christ in the power of the Spirit and gathering these disciples into churches, that they might worship the Lord and obey his commands now and in eternity to the glory of God the Father."

Greg Gilbert & Kevin DeYoung,
What is the Mission of the Church?

CROSSWAY
CHURCH

Theme: Look to the Great Commissions to become established in our mission as a church.

Introduction: When it comes to mission, there are many approaches and methods of trying to motivate Christians to engage. Our goal ought to be to understand mission as well as we can biblically so that we gain biblical convictions and are strengthened for long-term, sustained commitment.

In the Gospels & Acts we find 5 components of our mission:

1. To make disciples (Matt 28:16-20)

Jesus' words in Matt 28 are foundational for our understanding of mission. And in his commands, we find 1 primary command with 3 supporting participles. We are called to "make disciples," through going, baptizing, and teaching.

The mission of the church is to make disciples. And Jesus has promised to be with us always, to the end, as we engage in this mission.

2. Certainly unstoppable (Mark 13:10; 14:9)

In 2 different interactions with his disciples, Jesus speaks of the gospel going to "the whole world" and to "all nations."

Unlike people who concern themselves with matters too large for themselves, Jesus is the King who controls all things. His promises always come true.

3. To bear witness (Luke 24:44-49)

Jesus received all authority because he fulfilled everything that was written in Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms. And he empowers his disciples from the authority that he has been granted.

4. Inclusive of the whole church (Acts 1:8)

The commission was originally given to the Apostles in their unique and foundational role in the church.

From them, it passed to the entire church, as the book of Acts makes clear.

5. A real peace agreement (John 20:21)

Jesus achieved peace between God and man. And as his Father sent him, he sends his church to proclaim that message to the world.

The peace he offers is ultimately our reconciliation of God.

Questions:

1. What is the mission of the church?
2. How does Jesus' authority affect our lives in this age?
3. How is the Lord using you in his mission? How would you like to grow?