

Reading: Acts 2:42,46,47

Topic: Total Church Growth # 2

INTRODUCTION: Last lesson we observed the power of the _____ and the need to sow in order to reap a harvest, and today we will learn about building upon that principle in order to _____.

I. UNDERSTANDING THE PLAN OF GOD FOR THE CHURCH:

A. The Fundamental Principle – Growth:

1. We do not need to beg and plead with God for the church to _____ for it is His will and plan for that

to happen so we just need to find how to _____ and flow with His will and plan. Lk. 12:31,32

2. When Jesus spoke of establishing His Church here on earth, He spoke of it as _____ it, which requires

both work and the activity of expansion and _____. Mt. 16:18

B. Growing & Reproducing:

1. Growth is a fundamental trait of all _____ things that God created, both in the world of plants and

In the world of humans and _____, all are made to grow and reproduce. Gen. 1:21,22,27,28

2. When Jesus and the Word of God gave descriptions of the _____, it was compared to living things

such as a body, the flock, a vine and branches, a _____ and a family, etc. all things that are designed

to grow and reproduce. Jn. 15:5

II. THE PRIORITIES OF THE CHURCH:

A. The Early Church:

1. The early church had got its marching orders directly from Jesus Himself just prior to His _____, and the orders were _____ - to preach the Gospel and to make disciples. Mt. 28:19,20, Mk 16:15

2. When the Church began at Pentecost, the apostles and others began to put into _____ what Jesus

had instructed them to do, and they _____ that their priorities. Acts 2: 42,46,

3. This was their activities:

a. Prayer b. Teaching the Word (Bible Studies) c. Fellowshiping and eating together

d. Meeting regularly in the temple and in the homes.

Through this process, they evangelized and they disciplined the new _____ and the Lord worked with

them and caused the church to _____ daily. Acts 2:47

B. The Church Of Today:

1. In today's modern world, the priorities of our churches must not _____ from the pattern of that first church that Jesus established – to preach the _____ and to make disciples.

2. Every ministry and every _____ of every ministry must be focused on these two fundamental objectives – to reach the lost souls and then to help them to _____ to maturity. Gal. 4:19

3. The devil doesn't care how busy the _____ is just so long as it is too busy with everything else but reaching the _____ and making them into mature believers. I Kings 20:39,40
4. Our internal activities must be geared towards the _____ souls and the _____ converts who need help to _____ in Christ.

III. CHURCH SELF EXAMINATION:

A. Categorizing Our Ministries:

1. Let us take a few minutes to challenge ourselves and place our _____ ministries into the following Categories – a. Evangelism & Soul winning b. Making disciples c. Both d. Neither

Ministry	Category (a,b,c,d)
Church Services	
Sunday School	
Youth Ministry	
Men's & Ladies Prayer	
Discipleship Class	
Ushering	
Welcome Ministry	
Church Cleaning & Maintenance	
Children's Ministries	
Outreach Teams	
Home Bible Studies	
Home Friendship Groups	
Seniors Ministry	
Sunday School Picnic	
Welcome Back Night	
Visitor Follow Up	

2. Each and every ministry and _____ needs to be in one or both of the two categories and if it does not meet the criteria, a serious examination of the _____ for why we are doing it needs to take place, and possibly consideration to eliminate any useless thing.

CONCLUSION: May we keep our _____ on the mission of each ministry – to be involved in winning the lost and working to lead them to maturity and _____.