
SERMON NOTES January 15, 2023

Today's notes also available at [CCPL.life/Connect](https://ccpl.life/connect).

**Matthew 28:18-20
To Make Him Known
Pastor Mike**

- I. The church's _____ and our great _____

- II. _____ in living out the Great Commission
 - 1. We need to keep _____ on the main things
 - 2. Remember, the church isn't _____
 - 3. The great commission is given to _____
 - a. The _____ should compel us
 - b. We are saved from _____ and for a _____
 - 4. Sharing our faith isn't _____
 - a. We all _____ and _____
 - b. The picture of an _____
 - 5. God's strategy is through _____
 - 6. Moving forward with the _____

- III. Making it _____; The next _____

Questions for reflection, application, and discussion

1. In a large survey of Christians across the country, 89% of Christians answered the question "Why does the church exist" with the answer "the purpose of the church is to take care of my family and our needs." Only eleven percent said that the purpose of the church is to win the world for Jesus Christ.
 - a. Do these answers surprise you? How would you have answered that question?
 - b. What do you think would be Jesus' answer to the question, "why does the church exist?" Why did he establish the church? What is its purpose?
 - c. How does how we answer that question impact our church? How does how we answer that question impact our own spiritual life and growth?
2. In his message Pastor Mike said that it is natural for us (both as a church and as individuals) to become focused on our own life and our own spiritual growth, and to lose sight of the Great Commission, and God's call to share the gospel with unbelievers?
 - a. Do you agree that it is natural for this to happen? To what degree has it been true in your own life? Is it also inevitable?
 - b. Considering that each one of us are Christians only because someone else took the initiative to tell us about Jesus, why it is so common, and even natural for us to lose sight of the importance of telling others about Jesus?
 - c. What can we do to maintain (if not increase) our concern for unbelievers, and our passion for God's call to share the gospel?
3. Research among evangelical Christians shows that that on average, the longer a person is a Christian, the less effective he/she becomes as an evangelist. Does this surprise you? Why do you think this is true?
4. Many of us know that the Bible calls us to share our faith with others, but we're not sure why we should do it. Is it only a matter of obedience to a command, or should our motive be something else? What does 2nd Corinthians 5:9-21 about this question? Why is understanding the right biblical motive for obeying this command important?
5. When asked to describe the kind of person that they think of as an effective evangelist, the most common responses are *outgoing, charismatic, knowledgeable, bold, uninhibited, and a confident communicator*. But when asked to describe the person or people most responsible for leading them to Christ, most Christians describe someone who is caring, loving, a good listener, understanding, and patient.
 - a. Why do you think there is such a gap between the picture that most think of as an evangelist, and the type of person who is most effective in leading people to Christ?
 - b. Was the person or people most responsible for leading you to Christ? How would you describe them? Do you think that you could be used in other's lives in the way that they were used in your life?
 - c. Do you believe that God has given you the traits you need to be an effective evangelist?