

Team Church (2)

SLIDE #9: ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS FOR CHURCH LEADERS AND MEMBERS TO HAVE IS A STRONG BELIEF THAT EVERY CHRISTIAN NEEDS TO BE INVOLVED IN THE MISSION OF THE LOCAL CHURCH.

The church is the closest thing to heaven on earth!

- In heaven, everything and everyone exist for the glory of God.
- In heaven, everything and everyone exist for the purposes of God.
- In heaven, there is absolute harmony, and teamwork among all of God's creation.
 - Everything and everyone is in sync with God's big picture and their specific role.
 - There is no discord... the heavenly body submits to the head.
 - Nobody walks in offense.

The only time (we know of) that a heavenly leader got out of sync, refused to submit and took on an offense is when Lucifer rebelled.

This past summer, I have been trying to communicate a desire to build **Culture Carrying Leaders** are people who strive to make life on earth as it is in heaven.

The TITANS have HIGH HOPES because of last year's success.

When asked what was the key? Coach Malarkey says "it has to do with the Culture of our Team and entire organization".

He says that improvement came as he created a cultural foundation with players that are tough, dependable, team-first and accountable..

A team needs players who are TOUGH – DEPENDABLE – TEAM-FIRST

- The Church needs TOUGH – DEPENDABLE – who have a TEAM-FIRST culture!
- This Culture Change must first start in the church. We need to become TEAM!

Why is a Team Church Mentality so Important?

There is nothing on earth more valuable to God than His Church.

- 1) The Church is God's idea!
- 2) Jesus confirmed to his disciple's that He was indeed the Son of God... the Christ... the Anointed One and because of that He had the passion and the power to build His Church!
 - a) Jesus had a passion for his church... He calls her His Bride!
 - i) Eph 5:25-27 NIV Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her **26** to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, **27** and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.
 - ii) Jesus loves the church so much that he gave his life for her.
 - iii) There is nothing on earth more valuable to God than his church.
 - b) Jesus has the power to build his church!
 - i) John the Baptist said (Mt 3:11) I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.
 - ii) Acts 2:1-4 NLT On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place. **2** Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. **3** Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. **4** And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability.
- 3) The church is still God's Idea and Jesus is still passionate about the church. He is still building his church and he is doing it with: Passion – Powerful - Partners.

Within a few short days... a powerful church was established in Jerusalem, then in a couple of years a church in Antioch was established and out of that church Jesus (the head of the church) sent church planting teams all over the region.

Churches that met in the temple courts, synagogues, in cities and in homes and even besides the rivers.

Churches that had Apostles, Prophets, Evangelist, Pastors, and Teachers.

Churches with leaders who were both men and women...

Churches who carried with them the culture of heaven and not the culture of the world or the culture of dead religion.

Churches that valued prayer and cared for the needy!

This is what his team looks like!

The Church is imperfect but it is the hope of the world.

- 1) I am so tired of hearing people on social media saying, I love Jesus but I don't like church!
 - a) To hate of the local church is to hate on the very thing Jesus loves!
 - b) To hate on the local church is to hate on the very thing Jesus lives to build!
- 2) There are no perfect local churches and their never have been.

Most of the NT Epistles have some level correction in them for those local churches because there are always some people who are new to godliness and some don't just don't get it yet

- a) The church in Jerusalem started great... but soon some false teachers and self promoters filtered in. But yet thousands of people were getting saved and the favor of God was on it.
 - i) There were hypocrites that were present.
 - ii) There was one couple that gave a lot of money just for the recognition and then they lied about it and God judged them on the spot.
- b) The church in Corinth was great and powerful church and yet they had to deal all kinds of sexual sins. They even had to remove some from the fellowship because they kept living in sexual rebellion.

But the favor of God was on these imperfect people so powerfully that all the gifts of the Spirit were operation

Gifts of Healings, Miracles, prophetic utterances...

- c) The church at Philippi was a great church but they had cliques which had formed around 2 prominent women. Euodia and Syntyche. (Phil 4:2 Msg I urge Euodia and Syntyche to iron out their differences and make up. God doesn't want his children holding grudges.)

I am so glad Jesus didn't quit loving the church because some people are selfish, some people struggle with sexual sin and some people get offended and hold grudges.

Instead Jesus "... loved the church and gave himself up for her **26** to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, **27** and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

The local church is not perfect.... But it is the hope of the world!

We have got to stop walking in offense...

The church we see is the Church we will be.

I want to Inspire your Faith for the Church

See it – Imagine if our church was a better version of the things we value so much.

- He wants our church to be house of hope and healing.
- **SAVING PEOPLE – SERVING PEOPLE – SENDING PEOPLE**
- **God wants our church to do more than meet together, he has called us to be on a mission together.**

Say it

- The Church is God's idea... I will not be ashamed of it!
- The Church is God's idea... I will build it with Him, I will not destroy it negative talk.
- The Church is God's idea... I will not let relational conflict discourage me.
- The Church is God's idea... I will work in it, through it, and represent God outside of it.

Sow it

Galatians 6:7 NLT Don't be misled—you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant.

Galatians 6:8 NAS If a person sow only to the flesh he will reap corruptible things... if he sows to the spirit he will reap life