

Sermon Notes

July 9, 2017 -- Acts 2:42-47; 11:19-24

Ask The Pastor Anything:

Is the Church today what God Intended?

The early church was devoted to four areas:

- To the Apostle's t _____, to f _____, to c _____ and to p _____.
- Every _____ they continued to _____ together.
- They reached out to _____ with the good news.

Why are there so many different Christian/ Protestant Churches?

- Quick Answer: Someone would _____ a new movement or church because they _____ the current church had gotten off _____.
- History shows the creation of new denominations occurs over _____ struggles, some theological _____ or simply wanting to _____ the church.

Why are there so many huge/mega churches?

- These churches that grow are _____ to help people to come to _____ and live a _____ life to God.

What God desires are _____-filled people to be _____ to the apostle's teachings, to get together regularly and often, to remember Jesus through communion and to be people of prayer.

[Sermon Note Answers: teaching, fellowship, communion, prayer, day, meet, others begin, felt, track, power, differences, renew, seeking, Jesus, committed, faith, faithful, often, prayer.]

Brothers and Sisters in Christ

MONDAY – Matthew 12:46-50

Jesus is out with other people and is showing people the power of God and yet people are still seeing him as only a human, and not God in the flesh.

- What is the human question being asked? What is Jesus' response?
- How does his response impact how we as Christians should see each other?

The Purpose of the Church – Go

TUESDAY – Matthew 28:16-20

Jesus has spent some 40 days with the disciples after his resurrection and here gives them their final marching orders.

- What are the three tasks that Jesus' disciples are to spend their life doing? When we read the remainder of the New testament, this is what they do.
- Reflect how the church has helped you be discipled, baptized and taught. How are you helping the church today to accomplish these tasks?

We Belong to Each Other

WEDNESDAY – Romans 12:3-8

Paul tells the Christians (church) at Rome that the grace of acceptance and love they have received from God is that which they should show each other.

- Paul uses an analogy of the our bodies representing what? Do we all have the same function within the body of Christ?
- How do we belong to each other? How are you using your gifts at church?

Our Actions to Each Other

THURSDAY – 1 Thessalonians 5:12-24

Paul gives the Thessalonians some final instructions on how to act.

- There are a number of actions we must perform, from accountability to living in joy/thankfulness to not putting out the Spirit's fire. What strikes you?
- What one thing do you think God is asking you to focus on today?

Gifted to Serve the Church

FRIDAY – Ephesians 4:11-16

Paul states we are gifted to serve each other (church) and bring unity.

- Who is to prepare who for what purpose? What are the works of service for?
- As we are built up, what happens? How are you being built up and supporting the unity of the body of Christ?

Christ loves His Bride, the Church

SATURDAY – Ephesians 5:21-33

Paul here speaks about wives and husbands and how they should treat one another, and he uses the example of the love of Jesus for his bride (the church).

- How do you live your life in a sacrificial manner for the body of Christ?
- How do your words and actions support and make clean the church?