



Heart Warming Ministries

The Church's Mission and Purpose

Today, the mention of the word “church” produces a variety of mental pictures. For some, it brings to mind the high steeple, large stone constructed building at South B and 1st Ave. For others, it is that store front presence of Jesus in a less occupied but once thriving retail area. Some think of a denomination when they think of the church. Still others think of a particular congregation of close-knit friends and believers who share many of life’s experiences.

The word church in the New Testament means “a company of people called out” It consists of the people God has called out into a new relationship with Him through Jesus Christ. Throughout the Bible God’s church is described as a living, loving, lasting channel of His grace.

Buildings, programs, and traditions do not comprise the church. People do. The church consists of ordinary people that have answered the call of God to become members of the “body of Christ”. Connectedness and life are the qualities of all of its members. There is a mutual interdependence between all members. The foot cannot do the work of the eye; neither can the finger do the work of the toe. Just as the hand cannot exist if it is severed from the body, so the individual believer withers when detached from the church.

Paul rejoices in the complementary ministry of all members of the Body of Christ when he writes, “For it is from the head that the whole body, as a harmonious structure knit together by the joints with which it is provided, grows by the proper functioning of individual parts to its full maturity in love.” (Eph. 4:16 JB Phillips) Christ is the Head and we are members of His body.

So the Church is not a static organization to perpetuate a memory of Jesus, but a living force to achieve His purpose. Proverbs 19:21 states, “Many are the plans in a man’s heart, but it is the Lord’s **purpose** that prevails.”(NIV) In Matthew 16:18 Jesus said this, “ I will build my church: and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it!”(NIV)

Friends, churches that last are not built on programs, personalities, or events. We do not build God’s kingdom through gimmicks, gadgets and giveaways.

We are the body of Christ, if the body is idle the body will grow flabby and soft, just as it would happen in the physical world. Some years ago I read that the body is the only machine that breaks down when not used.

This said, I want to challenge you as a Child of God, as a member of God’s Church to get aligned with God’s vision and purpose. Determine in your heart that you will serve the Lord completely. Determine within that you will do exactly what God has called and wants you to do. Begin to exercise your spiritual muscles to bring health and glory to His body. Love God with all your heart, love your neighbor as yourself, and go...make disciples.



What is our mission? Worship God, Evangelize the Lost, grow in Discipleship, participate in Fellowship, and become active in Ministry. That, my friend, is our mission and our purpose.