



BUILDING HIS CHURCH

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Building a Church

We live in interesting times. Especially in regards to the church and building a church.

Matthew 16:18 tells us that Christ will build His church.

Vs. 19 – whatever we bind will be bound, whatever we loose will be loosed.

HOWEVER: Christ will build His church.

YET: Churches build bigger buildings with fancier facilities and a plethora of programs and better music and crazier stages...all for drawing people into the church...to get bigger and build the church.

PLEASE UNDERSTAND: None of these things are wrong in and of themselves...they are good, but if we are working at building a church by these things...I think we've miss it.

ILLUSTRATION: I was listening to a song the other day, "Run Wild" from For King and Country (it was stuck on repeat for some reason). The second verse of the song has these two lines:

"You're a LION FULL OF POWER who forgot how to roar, You're an EAGLE FULL OF BEAUTY but you can't seem to soar..."

(The eagle could also be full of power too)

I certainly think this describes the church (as a whole); we're trying to BUILD the CHURCH on stuff, and we are suppose to build it on the anointing (Christ).

1 Corinthians 12:7-11 gives us 9 spiritual gifts that God has given to the church to bless the church.

These are about power...about operating in the Spirit, under the anointing.

It is widely given, but not widely accepted or used.

These gifts have been given to us and we are sticking to the gimmicks.

WHY? Because gimmicks are easier?! Gimmicks don't take us submitting to the anointing?! Gimmicks don't take us living a holy life?! Gimmicks are natural?!

Perhaps that is why the Apostle Paul says,

1 Corinthians 12:1 – "Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant."

(INSERT: This does NOT mean we don't invite people. Quit trying to get out of inviting and sharing Jesus.)

AS A MATTER OF FACT: I see from Scripture that these gifts and the power of God is EXACTLY how to build the church.

Acts 2:41 – “Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.”

NOTE: The DRAWING CARD? A bunch of people speaking in tongues, spilling over into the streets...acting drunk. Some of which were even speaking in other languages (that they did not know) and were found glorifying God.

It wasn't a building...even good music (which I love)...or programs. Three thousand were added to the church because they heard a SERMON...and were drawn to it by a bunch of HOLY ROLLERS.

NOTE: We must be ourselves!

Let's Look at Jesus

Matthew 4:23-25

- 23 And Jesus went about all Galilee, **teaching in their synagogues**, and **preaching the gospel of the kingdom**, and **healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people**.
- 24 And his fame went throughout all Syria: and **they brought unto him all sick people** that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatick, and those that had the palsy; and **he healed them**.

NOTICE: He was teaching and preaching...AND HEALING...therefore, the crowds came to Him.

- 25 And there followed him great multitudes of people from Galilee, and from Decapolis, and from Jerusalem, and from Judaea, and from beyond Jordan.

Matthew 15:29-31

- 29 And Jesus departed from thence, and came nigh unto the sea of Galilee; and went up into a mountain, and sat down there.
- NOTE:** Often to get away...for rest. Sometimes to teach.
- 30 And great multitudes came unto him, having with them those that were lame, blind, dumb, maimed, and many others, and cast them down at Jesus' feet; and he healed them:
- 31 Insomuch that the multitude wondered, when they saw the dumb to speak, the maimed to be whole, the lame to walk, and the blind to see: and they glorified the God of Israel.

Matthew 15:32 – “Then Jesus called his disciples unto him, and said, I have compassion on the multitude, because they continue with me now three days, and have nothing to eat: and I will not send them away fasting, lest they faint in the way.”

- * This leads to the account of the feeding of the 4,000 from 7 loaves and a few small fish (working of miracles).
- * They came to be healed AND THEN stayed for THREE DAYS without food to hear Him teach.

Mark 1:29-34

- 29 And forthwith, when they were come out of the synagogue, they entered into the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John.
- 30 But Simon's wife's mother lay sick of a fever, and anon they tell him of her.
- 31 And he came and took her by the hand, and lifted her up; **and immediately the fever left her**, and she ministered unto them.

- 32 And at even, when the sun did set, they brought unto him all that were diseased, and them that were possessed with devils.
- 33 ***And all the city was gathered together at the door.***
- 34 And he healed many that were sick of divers diseases, and cast out many devils; and suffered not the devils to speak, because they knew him.

He was at a house and they CAME to HIM.

If we continue on we find:

- * He snuck away from the house to get some quiet time and pray...
- * Even the disciples didn't know where He was...but they had an idea.
- * Vs. 37 – “And when they had found him, they said unto him, All men seek for thee.”

Mark 1:38-40 (Luke 4:40-42)

- 38 And he said unto them, Let us go into the next towns, that ***I may preach there also: for therefore came I forth.***
- 39 And he preached in their synagogues throughout all Galilee, and cast out devils.
- 40 And there came a leper to him, beseeching him, and kneeling down to him, and saying unto him, If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.

NOTICE: Why did Jesus come? To preach the good news. What drew people to hear the good news? Healing and power!

Luke 6:17-19

- 17 And he came down with them, and stood in the plain, and the company of his disciples, and a great multitude of people out of all Judaea and Jerusalem, and from the sea coast of Tyre and Sidon, ***which came to hear him, and to be healed of their diseases;***
- 18 And they that were vexed with unclean spirits: and ***they were healed.***
- 19 And the whole multitude sought to touch him: for there went virtue out of him, and ***healed them all.***

John 14:12 – “Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.”

- 1.) We will see the church grow the same way Jesus did...through power.
- 2.) We will do the same things as Jesus did, because of the Holy Spirit.

Psalms 127:1 – “Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.”

Conclusion

Of course, this does NOT relieve us of inviting or even sharing or loving others. But we ALL must seek to see people healed...lay hands on the sick.

BELOVED: The disciples couldn't keep people away from Jesus...couldn't stop them from hearing the Word...because of the healing power that Jesus displayed.