

Acts 2:41-47

Last week we saw 7 things that characterized the early church... 7 things that we want to characterize us. I am going to run back through it in case you missed some of it.

Verse 1....they were regenerate....saved, born again!

I. Maturing in the Word v42a

Scripture Intake

1. As a church we want to be maturing in the word
2. We achieve that as we as individuals say...

- **I will strive to read my Bible each day this week**
- **I will memorize 1 Scripture passage this week**

II. Meaningful Fellowship v42b, 46

1. As a church we want to be characterized by meaningful fellowship
2. We achieve this as we, as individuals say...

- **I will be faithful to assemble with the body for worship this week**
- **I will host one family that I do not know well in my home this quarter**

III. Making Supplication v42c

Prayer

1. As a church we want to be characterized by making supplication
2. We achieve this as we, as individuals say...

- **I will join the church family in praying through this week's prayer guide**

IV. Miracles Performed v43

1. As a church we want to be characterized by miracles
2. We achieve this as we, as individuals say seek to have a tangible impact...and make a real difference

V. Ministry to the Body v44-45

Serving one another

1. As a church we want to be characterized as ministering to the body.
2. We achieve this as we, have our needs met...but also meet the needs of others

VI. Magnifying God v47

Worship

1. As a church we want to be characterized by magnifying God.
 2. We achieve this as we, as individuals say...
- **I will be faithful to assemble with the body for worship this week**
 - **I will practice family worship at least once this week.**
 - **I will give generously and sacrificially this week.**
3. Writing a blank check with our all!

VII. Missions, Evangelism, and Disciple making v47

Here is our bullseye: Missions Disciple making, and evangelism.

"The Great Commission is not an option to be considered; it is a command to be obeyed" - Hudson Taylor

1. He left us no question, because He included it in all 4 gospels and Acts!
 - a. Matthew 28:18-20, go and make disciples of all nations
 - b. Mark 16:15, go and preach the gospel to all creation: Gospel centered work!

- c. Luke 24:47, repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.
- d. John 20:21, As the Father has sent me, so I send you.
- e. Acts 1:8

This is His will and His plan for us.

1. This is our bullseye
2. *"The spirit of Christ is the spirit of missions. The nearer we get to Him, the more intensely missionary we become."*— Henry Martyn

2. If we aim at this, we will hit everything else.

- a. Tie it together... Draw the Design to tie it all together. (Insert Banner)
- b. If we aim at becoming a launching pad together, the other 6 elements will take care of themselves.

• **This must be our bullseye as a church!**

Are we going to be a landing strip or are we going to be a launching pad?

"Only as the church fulfills her missionary obligation does she justify her existence." - Unknown

1. Our plan is to be a launching pad.
2. We aren't just haphazardly going about this either.
3. Back in October of 2018 we put together a 5 tiered approach to the mission.

Chart...top goal is getting to the UUPG with the gospel

1. Why?

2. *"Today five out of six non-Christians in our world have no hope unless missionaries come to them and plant the church among them."*- David Bryant

3. Matthew 24:14 *This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.*

Jesus' and Our top goal is getting to the UUPG with the gospel but there is some work to be done first.

1. Tier 1—Local, Tullahoma, TN

- a. D-groups
- b. Personal evangelism focus
- c. Who's your one
- d. Opportunities to engage our community at least quarterly (\$12,000 budget!)

2. Tier 2—North America

- a. Clarkston, GA, Sudanese partnership
- b. New York City, Queens partnership
- c. Part of that 12,000 budget

3. Tier 3—Germany

4. Tier 4—North Africa and Southeast Asia

5. Tier 5—Unreached, unengaged people group

- a. Matthew 28:18-20, go and make disciples of all nations
- b. The goal is not to make disciples of as many people as possible.
- c. The goal is to make disciples of as many nations (people groups) as possible.
- d. To push farther and farther out...to the ends of the earth.

6. This is our goal!

"I have but one candle of life to burn, and I would rather burn it out in a land filled with darkness than in a land flooded with light"- John Keith Falconer

• **This must become our bullseye as individuals.**

1. **I will be intentional about being discipled and making disciples this week**

2. **I will invite 1 person to church this week**

3. **I will participate in Who's Your one? this year**

4. **I will participate in at least one mission effort this year**

You can participate in at least one mission effort this year by

1. Going

2. Sending

a. Hold the ropes financially and in prayer

b. With equal sacrifice! *"If a commission by an earthly king is considered an honor, how can a commission by a Heavenly King be considered a sacrifice?"*— David Livingstone

c. And don't underestimate the importance of prayer!

"In no other way can the believer become as fully involved with God's work, especially the work of world evangelism, as in intercessory prayer." –Dick Eastman

3. You can go, or you can send, or you can disobey.

"Not called!" did you say? Not heard the call, I think you should say. Put your ear down to the Bible, and hear Him bid you go and pull sinners out of the fire of sin. Put your ear down to the burdened, agonized heart of humanity, and listen to its pitiful wail for help. Go stand by the gates of hell, and hear the damned entreat you to go to their father's house and bid their brothers and sisters and servants and masters not to come there. Then look Christ in the face -- whose mercy you have professed to obey -- and tell Him whether you will join heart and soul and body and circumstances in the march to publish His mercy to the world. - William Booth, founder of the Salvation Army

"The command has been to 'go,' but we have stayed—in body, gifts, prayer and influence. He has asked us to be witnesses unto the uttermost parts of the earth. But 99% of Christians have kept puttering around in the homeland."

- Robert Savage

"As long as there are millions destitute of the Word of God and knowledge of Jesus Christ, it will be impossible for me to devote time and energy to those who have both." - J. L. Ewen

PLUS 1

"While vast continents are shrouded in darkness the burden of proof lies upon you to show that the circumstances in which God has placed you were meant by God to keep you out of the foreign mission field."

- Ion Keith-Falconer

"It will not do to say that you have no special call to go to China. With these facts before you and with the command of the Lord Jesus to go and preach the gospel to every creature, you need rather to ascertain whether you have a special call to stay at home." - J. Hudson Taylor

"The Great Commission is not an option to be considered; it is a command to be obeyed"

- Hudson Taylo