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A Weekly Devotional from the
South Green Street Church of Christ

The Mission Of The Church

by Steve Higginbotham

Could you easily discover the mission of the church by looking around you at the "church" in your community? What's it all about? Some might get the idea that the mission of the church is to cater to the desires of the people. Facilities are built to conveniently offer everything under one roof like the local mall or YMCA. The message from the pulpit has been repackaged in an effort to remove any offense and to be as accommodating as possible. J.I. Packer calls this new trend "hot tub religion."

If that's an appropriate designation, I for one, am all for pulling the plug in the hot tub. Friends, the real mission of the church is not to make people happy, but to make them holy. Not to offer recreation, but reconciliation. Not to encourage people to seek therapy, but to seek authority. People should not be more acquainted with the 12 steps to recovery than they are with the steps to salvation.

It's time we quit trying to make the church "relevant" to a worldly, secular society. Let the church be the church. The true measure of a church is not in slick marketing techniques, but in biblical faithfulness. Please don't forget the real mission of the church!