

What Is Our Mission?

(Ephesians 3:21)

- Introduction:
1. Ills. of how easy it is to lose focus. Playing blocks with Anne Marie.
 2. This stands in stark contrast with Jesus.
 - a. (Luke 2:49) Must be about my Father's business.
 - b. (John 19:30) It is finished.
 3. Sometimes churches lose their focus too.
 4. So I ask the question, "What is the mission of the church?"

I. Right Answers Versus True Answers

- A. Ills. of question I would often ask high school class.
- B. Ills. of squirrel and Jesus.
- C. What would you say is the mission of the church?
- D. Evangelism? Bible study? Prayer? Benevolence?
 1. Those are right answers, but are they true?

II. Confusion Over The Mission Of The Church

- A. It is not to cater to the desires of the people.
- B. It is not to make people happy, but holy.
- C. It is not to offer recreation, but reconciliation.
- D. It is not to encourage people to seek therapy, but to seek authority.
- E. The church should not be more acquainted with the steps of recovery than they are with the steps of salvation.
- F. It's time we stop trying to be "relevant" to a worldly, secular society. The church needs to be the church.
- G. The true measure of a church is not in slick marketing techniques, but in biblical faithfulness.

III. The Mission of the Church

- A. It needs to be restated (Judges 2:10).
- B. (Ephesians 3:21).
- C. We accomplish this mission by being Christ's point of contact with the world today (Romans 12:4-8; 1 Corinthians 12:13-27; Galatians 2:20).
- D. The contact we make is through our...
 1. Message (Mark 16:15; 1 Corinthians 1:18, 21).
 2. Compassion (Acts 10:38; Titus 2:7,14; 3:8,14).
 3. Encouragement (Romans 14:19; Hebrews 3:13).

- Conclusion:
1. Our mission as a church is to bring glory to Jesus.
 2. We can do that through allowing him the use of our bodies.
 3. May he use our lips to speak words of hope and salvation; our hands to heal the sick and wounded; and our feet to go where people are in need.