

The Model

2: "The Church"

The Message

Series

- God's plan is that through his sons and daughters, he would bring his peace and reconciliation to the world
 - the Church is the hope of the world
- That often is not the reality of Christians or the church
- It is a problem because Satan destroys John 10:10
 - Satan wants to destroy our world.
- We want to be like the church of Acts 2:43-48
 - This inspires us
- the reason we do not live this out is because we have been following the wrong model
 - in the church, as Christians, as men and women
 - If you build with the wrong plans, you won't build what you wanted
- We will look at God's model for the church, man, woman, and Christian

What is our model?

Social Club

the model normally follow: Social Club

The church always has a tendency to model

- Our meetings
- Our likes/dislikes
- Our preferences

Our model does not work

- Inward-Focused
 - All have seen this
 - Christians more concerned with their things, their meetings, their traditions, than the mission

Results: Satan destroys

we don't change the world

What is God's model?

The concept
model of God
If we follow his model, we will get his results

We will answer 2 questions

1. If you are a Christian: What am I a part of? If you are not Christian: What would I be a part of if I decided to follow Jesus? What would I do as part of this?
 - a. The culture says "Attend and be good; we listen to messages that tell us to change the world ", now you'll know what it is you are a part of
2. What are we building?
 - a. In planting this church, what is the goal
 - b. A Sunday service?

Big Idea: The church is the body of Christ in the earth

through the church, Christ works on earth

1 Corinthians 12:27

Colossians 1:18

Ephesians 4:11-16

What does the body of Christ look like

in practical terms

People living in authentic community, working together and organized to achieve the mission of Jesus

Acts 6:1-7

3 elements

3 elements need to be a healthy church

community: We are a family

- They lived as a family

Acts 2:42

Acts 2 :44-46

- small groups / small families
- eat together
- in their homes
- share a life together

Mission: Reproduce

All this isn't about us,

Matthew 28:18-20

To guide those who are far from Christ to a decision to follow him, and lead them afterwards to live this decision

- The most important thing was that their friends would follow Christ
 - Everything else was in second place

reproduction is the key word

- Reproduction of followers of Christ
- Reproduction of communities (small family)
- Reproduction of Churches (plant other churches) (we can see this in the rest of the New Testament)

The goal is not to have a good service; it is to reproduce people, communities and churches

Leadership: Guidance

- Elders
 - 3 words in the bible for Senior leader
 - Bishop -presides over the community
 - Pastor- those charged with caring for the community
 - Elder- an authority in the community

Tito 1:5

- Part of the plan in establish churches
- Appointed (not elected)
- Neither dictatorship nor democracy

1 Timothy 3:1-7

- Men
- Qualified
 - (if you could be sent out to plant a church, you could be pastor of this church)
- Leading the mission
 - leaders in evangelizing, disciple and forming community

- Deacons

1 Timothy 3:8-15

- Servants
- responsible for a work area
- Men and Women

Work Plan: How do we follow this model?

Community: Family

At the level of the church:

- We form communities
 - the definition of being part of the church is to be part of a family (not only attend on Sunday)
 - being a leader of others here is to organize a group

personal level:

- Being part of a community
 - participate in group meetings
 - during the week Living with a small group of your brothers
- Take on the goal of organizing a community in your home

leadership: Guidance

at the level of the church:

- we are looking for elders and deacons. Church leaders and leaders of areas of work.
 - That is what we have to have in order to say that the church is established

at the personal level

- you should ask yourself how you could become an elder or deacon
- How am following the leaders?

Mission: reproduction

level of the church:

- Our goal is to multiply people
- Our goal is to multiply communities
- Our goal is to multiply churches

personal level:

- Work with an outsider (invest in a non-Christian)
- Working with an insider (someone who invest in is a Christian)
- Decide that you will be part of something new (or church)

Specific applications

NW: this is what we should be. How do we compare when we look at what we are with this model. Where there are differences? where do we need to improve?

Iglesia: this is what we are building. We have not finished the work of planting the church until we have become this. And the work will go on forever through reproducing other communities and churches.

for the youth: this is what it means to be part of the church

Be part of this

Build the church, don't play church

Why do this? God will change the world through us

Next Step

Repentance: How have you been doing church according to a different model?

Change: What do you need to change in order to do this according to God's model?

- Decide to enter into Jesus, become part of his body by repenting and being baptized
- Decide to be part of smaller community
- Decide to live for the mission of reproducing people or churches or communities
- Decide that God is calling you to be a leader

Communion: the Gospel

When we see how we should be (the model), we realize that:

1) how short we fall

2) our inability to achieve what God wants us to be crushes us

the gospel says that it is not because of our work, not because of being what God wants us to be, that he accepts and loves us, but rather because of what Christ did.

We remember that after the baptism of Jesus, God said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased - before Jesus had done his ministry now, in Christ, God says the same of us, not because our works but because of what Christ did on the cross