



TUESDAY 30th
MAY 2023

Digging Deep

TOPIC- THE PRACTICES OF A FRUITFUL CHURCH

TEXTS: Jn. 15:1-8, Acts 2:38-47

INTRODUCTION.

The early church in the book of Acts was evangelical and no wonder God kept adding to the church daily. Let's ask ourselves a sincere question- if the church today had taken the task of soul winning the way the early church did, how far would we have gone in winning the world for Christ? I am sure we would have recorded greater success.

Brethren, the attitude of some churches towards this urgent and most noble task indicates they are ignorant of certain facts:

- ❖ That the more we delay in reaching the unsaved the harder it becomes in reaching them.
- ❖ That the territory we don't take for Christ is taking over by darkness.
- ❖ That when an unsaved person dies without the opportunity to hear the gospel he/she is lost forever.
- ❖ That this gospel of the Kingdom must be preached in all nations as a witness to them before the Lord can return.

Therefore, in this study, we shall be considering the necessary ingredients and practices of a fruitful church.

THE NECESSARY INGREDIENTS OF A FRUITFUL CHURCH

Let us notice the necessary ingredients for having a soul-winning church.

1. A Soul-Winning Pastor. **Acts 2:38, 1 Cor. 11:1, Jn. 4:34, Lk. 19:10, Psa. 69:9**
The early church was led by Peter – a persistent soul winner. It is utter folly to think that a soul-winning church could exist without a soul-winning pastor. Someone said that everything rises and falls on leadership. If a church is to be a warm, evangelistic, soul-winning institution, it must be led by a soul-winning pastor.
2. Soul-winning ministers. **Amos 3:3, 1 Cor:9:16**
The early Church had persistent soul winners like Stephen, Philip and later Paul among the workforce.
3. Soul Winning congregations. **Acts 2:42-47**
All the members of the early Church acted as one – creating the right atmosphere for the addition of souls to the Church.
4. Holy Spirit-filled leaders and members abiding in the Lord. **Jn. 15:5, Acts 1:8, Acts 13:2, Acts 4:31&32**

THE PRACTICES OF A FRUITFUL CHURCH

1. The pastor takes the lead in soul-winning. **1 Cor. 11:1**
2. They habitually teach fruitfulness/Soul Winning. **1 Pet. 3:15**
3. They preach sermons geared towards the saving of souls. **Mk. 1:14, Lk. 4:43, Acts 8:12, Acts 20:25**



4. They are prepared to be very patient as people grow and invest a serious amount of time in helping people become disciples. **Heb. 13:2**
5. They operate a church without walls. **Matt. 22:9-11**; They take the church to the people. **Acts 2:46**
6. Radical Hospitality. **Acts 2:44&45**
7. Constantly extending God's invitations to social programs. **Matt. 22:8-9.**
8. Welcome strangers. **Deu. 10:19, Heb. 13:2, Matt. 25:40, Matt. 18:5**; Warm and non-condemning welcome. **Rom. 15:7, Lk. 19:5-10**
9. Timely and planned follow-ups. **Acts 14:21**
10. A chain of discipleship program. **Acts 2:42, Matt. 28:18,19**

Have a definite plan for beginning discipleship and pair them with people who can most likely have the best influence on them and who can devote the best amount of time.

CONCLUSION

Everything we do in the church should have behind it the underlying passion to see sinners saved and the saved grow up to the full measure of Christ. **Lk 19:10; Eph. 4:11-14.**

