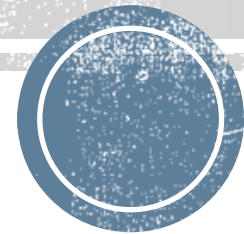


# The Work of the Church

New Testament Church Studies



# The Work of the Church

- **Evangelism** (Matthew 28:19–20; Mark 16:15–16; Luke 24:46–47; John 20:21–23; Acts 1:8; Acts 8:4; Acts 8:12)
- **Edification** (Ephesians 4:11–16; Colossians 2:19)
- **Benevolence** (Matthew 5:43–48, 7:12; 1Thessalonians 3:12; 5:15; Romans 12:9, 14, 20; Galatians 6:10; 1 John 3:18)



# Evangelism

- **Evangelism** (Matthew 28:19–20; Mark 16:15–16; Luke 24:46–47; John 20:21–23)



# Evangelism (The Example of Jesus)

- **Matthew 4:23** And he went throughout all Galilee, **teaching** in their synagogues and **proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom** and healing every disease and every affliction among the people.



# Evangelism (The Example of Jesus)

- **Mark 1:14** Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, **proclaiming the gospel of God,**
- **Mark 1:15** and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; **repent and believe in the gospel.**”



# Evangelism (The Example of Jesus)

- **Luke 1:14** And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and a report about him went out through all the surrounding country.
- **Luke 1:15** And **he taught in their synagogues**, being glorified by all.



# The Great Commission

- **All Nations** need the gospel (Matthew 28:19) and **every person in every nation** needs the gospel (Mark 16:15–16).



# The Great Commission

- **Matthew 28:19** Therefore **go** and **make disciples** of **all nations**, **baptizing** them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
- **Matthew 28:20** teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”





# The Great Commission

- **Mark 16:15** He said to them, “**Go** into **all the world** and **preach** the gospel to all **creation**.”
- **Mark 16:16** Whoever **believes** and is **baptized** will be **saved**, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.



# The Great Commission

- **Luke 24:46** and said to them, “Thus it is written, that **the Christ** should **suffer** and **on the third day rise from the dead**,
- **Luke 24:47** and that **repentance** for the **forgiveness of sins** should be **proclaimed in his name to all nations**, beginning from Jerusalem.



# The Great Commission

- **John 20:21** Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.”
- **John 20:22** And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.
- **John 20:23** **If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.”**



# Teaching the World

- **Acts 1:8** But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in **Jerusalem** and in all **Judea** and **Samaria**, and to the **end of the earth**.
- **Acts 2** (Jews)
- **Acts 8** (Samaritans)
- **Acts 10** (Gentiles)



# Teaching the World

- Acts 8:4 Now those who were scattered **went about preaching the word.**



# Preaching Kingdom and the King of the Kingdom

- Acts 1:12 But when they believed Philip as **he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.**



# Edification

- **Edification** (Ephesians 4:11–16; Colossians 2:19)



# The Word of God Edifies

- Acts 20:32 And now I commend you to **God** and **to the word of his grace**, which is able to build you up and to **give you the inheritance** among all those who are sanctified.





# Growing (Maturing) in Body of Christ

- **Colossians 2:19** and not holding fast to the Head, from whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, **grows with a growth** that is from God.



# Equipping & Edifying the Body of Christ

- Ephesians 4:11 And **he gave** the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers,
- Ephesians 4:12 **to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,**



# Equipping & Edifying the Assembly

- **Ephesians 4:13** until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,
- **Ephesians 4:14** so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.



# Equipping & Edifying the Body of Christ

- **Ephesians 4:15** Rather, speaking the truth in love, **we are to grow up** in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,
- **Ephesians 4:16** from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, **when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.**



# Grow in Grace and Knowledge

- **2 Peter 3:17** You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, **take care that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people** and lose your own stability.
- **2 Peter 3:18** **But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.** To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.



# When the Word of God is Understood – it Builds Up the Church

- 1 Corinthians 14:3 On the other hand, **the one who prophesies speaks to people for their upbuilding** and encouragement and consolation.
- 1 Corinthians 14:4 The one who speaks in a tongue builds up himself, but **the one who prophesies builds up the church.**



# When the Word of God is Understood – it Builds Up the Church

- **1 Corinthians 14:5** Now I want you all to speak in tongues, but even more to prophesy. The one who prophesies is greater than the one who speaks in tongues, unless someone interprets, **so that the church may be built up.**
- **1 Corinthians 14:12** So with yourselves, since you are eager for manifestations of the Spirit, **strive to excel in building up the church.**



# When the Word of God is Understood – it Builds Up the Church

- **1 Corinthians 14:26** What then, brothers? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. **Let all things be done for building up.**





# Benevolence

- **Benevolence** (Matthew 5:43-48, 7:12; 1Thessalonians 3:12; 5:15; Romans 12:9, 14, 20; Galatians 6:10; 1 John 3:18; Acts 2:44–45; Acts 4:32–35; Acts 6:1–4; Acts 11:27–30; Romans 15:25–26; 1 Corinthians 16:1–2; 2 Corinthians 8:4; 2 Corinthians 9:1, 12, 13; 1 Timothy 5:3–16)



# Benevolence (The Example of God)

- **Matthew 5:43** “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’
- **Matthew 5:44** But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,
- **Matthew 5:45** so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. **For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.**



# Benevolence (The Example of Jesus)

- **Matthew 4:23** And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and **healing every disease and every affliction among the people.**
- **Matthew 4:24** So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, **those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, those having seizures, and paralytics, and he healed them.**



# Treat Everyone Right

- Matthew 7:12 “So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.



# Helping Needy Saints

- Acts 2:44 And all who believed were together and **had all things in common.**
- Acts 2:45 And they were selling their possessions and belongings and **distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.**



# Helping Needy Saints

- **Acts 4:32** Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, **but they had everything in common.**
- **Acts 4:33** And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.



# Helping Needy Saints

- Acts 4:34 **There was not a needy person among them**, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold
- Acts 4:35 and laid it at the apostles' feet, and **it was distributed to each as any had need.**



# Helping Needy Saints

- **Acts 6:1** Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution.
- **Acts 6:2** And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables.





# Helping Needy Saints

- **Acts 6:3** Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty.
- **Acts 6:4** But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.”



# Helping Needy Saints

- **Acts 11:27** Now in these days prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch.
- **Acts 11:28** And one of them named Agabus stood up and **foretold by the Spirit that there would be a great famine over all the world** (this took place in the days of Claudius).



# Helping Needy Saints

- Acts 11:29 So the disciples determined, every one according to his ability, **to send relief to the brothers living in Judea.**
- Acts 11:30 And they did so, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul.



# Helping Needy Saints

- **Romans 15:25** At present, however, **I am going to Jerusalem bringing aid to the saints.**
- **Romans 15:26** For Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to make some contribution for the poor among the saints at Jerusalem.



# Helping Needy Saints

- **1 Corinthians 16:1** Now concerning the **collection for the saints: as I directed the churches of Galatia, so you also are to do.**
- **1 Corinthians 16:2** On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper, so that there will be no collecting when I come.
- **1 Corinthians 16:3** And when I arrive, **I will send those whom you accredit by letter to carry your gift to Jerusalem.**



# Helping Needy Saints

- **2 Corinthians 8:4** begging us earnestly for the favor of **taking part in the relief of the saints**—
- **2 Corinthians 9:1** Now it is superfluous for me to write to you about **the ministry for the saints**,



# Helping Needy Saints

- **2 Corinthians 9:12** For the ministry of this service is not only **supplying the needs of the saints** but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God.
- **2 Corinthians 9:13** By their approval of this service, they will glorify God because of your submission that comes from your confession of the gospel of Christ, and **the generosity of your contribution for them and for all others,**



# Helping Needy Widows

- **1 Timothy 5:3** Honor widows who are truly widows.
- **1 Timothy 5:4** But if a widow has children or grandchildren, let them first learn to show godliness to their own household and to make some return to their parents, for this is pleasing in the sight of God.
- **1 Timothy 5:5** **She who is truly a widow, left all alone, has set her hope on God and continues in supplications and prayers night and day,**





# Helping Needy Widows

- **1 Timothy 5:6** but she who is self-indulgent is dead even while she lives.
- **1 Timothy 5:7** Command these things as well, so that they may be without reproach.
- **1 Timothy 5:8** But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.



# Helping Needy Widows

- **1 Timothy 5:9** **Let a widow be enrolled if she is not less than sixty years of age**, having been the wife of one husband,
- **1 Timothy 5:10** **and having a reputation for good works:** if she has brought up children, has shown hospitality, has washed the feet of the saints, has cared for the afflicted, and has devoted herself to every good work.



# Helping Needy Widows

- **1 Timothy 5:11** But refuse to enroll younger widows, for when their passions draw them away from Christ, they desire to marry
- **1 Timothy 5:12** and so incur condemnation for having abandoned their former faith.



# Helping Needy Widows

- **1 Timothy 5:13** Besides that, they learn to be idlers, going about from house to house, and not only idlers, but also gossips and busybodies, saying what they should not.
- **1 Timothy 5:14** So I would have younger widows marry, bear children, manage their households, and give the adversary no occasion for slander.



# Helping Needy Widows

- **1 Timothy 5:15** For some have already strayed after Satan.
- **1 Timothy 5:16** If any believing woman has relatives who are widows, let her care for them. Let the church not be burdened, **so that it may care for those who are truly widows.**



# Helping Those In Need

- **James 1:27** Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to **visit orphans and widows in their affliction**, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.
- **Galatians 6:10** So then, as we have opportunity, **let us do good to everyone**, and **especially to those who are of the household of faith**.
- **1 John 3:18** Little children, **let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth**.



# Conclusion

- The church of Christ must carry out the mission and work of Jesus.
- **Ephesians 2:10** For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus **for good works**, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

