

“Missions or Activities?”

Colossians 3:16-18

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



“Carl - if you ever go on a mission trip, don't get an interpreter with a sense of humor!”

Colossians 3:16-17

16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

Rick Warren on the Origin of the Purpose-Driven Church
by: Michael Dubuit
www.crosswalk.com

The great commandment gives us two purposes; the great commission gives us three. The great commandment: Love God with all of your heart; that is worship. Worship is expressing my love to God. Love your neighbor as yourself; that is ministry. So, two purposes of the church (worship and ministry) come from the great commandment.

Three of the purposes of the church come from the great commission, which says to go make disciples; that's evangelism. It says to teach them to do everything I have commanded you; that is discipleship. Right in the middle it says to baptize them in the name of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit. Now why did God put baptism between these two great purposes of worship and evangelism? I think because of what it represents. Baptism does not just represent new life in Christ; it represents incorporation into the body. The Bible says we are baptized into the body of Christ. So, I think baptism is a symbol for fellowship or incorporation. Baptism says, "I am not ashamed to say I am a believer. I have identified myself as a Christian," and the point there is we are called not to just be believers but belongers.

Goes on to say...

If you don't have a strategy or structure to balance the five purposes intentionally, the church tends to over-emphasize the purpose the pastor is most passionate about. For instance, if I am gifted in teaching I tend to produce a classroom church that has Christians growing but maybe nobody is coming to Christ. If I have gifts in evangelism, I tend to produce a soul-winning church where lots of people come to Christ, but there is no depth. I may have gifts in the area of ministry; we'll have what I call a "family reunion church" with great fellowship, great *koinonia*, but no evangelism, no discipleship. Or, you can have gifts in the area of worship and build what I call an "experiencing God" church — God comes down, the Holy Spirit falls, maybe there are signs and wonders. It's great worship, but no ministry or no fellowship, or no evangelism. So, I need a strategy and structure to keep me from killing the church!

Rick Warren's Church Principles

- Worship
- Ministry
- Evangelism
- Discipleship
- Fellowship

MHBC Mission Statement

- Seeking to Grow in Christ,

1. Dynamic Discipleship

2 Timothy 2:2

2 And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.

2. Powerful Preaching

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

- 1 And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God.
- 2 For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.
- 3 And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling.
- 4 And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:
- 5 That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

3a. Shaping Small Groups

Proverbs 27:17

- 17 Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.

3b. Shaping Small Groups

Ecclesiastes 4:9

- 9 Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour.
- 10 For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.
- 11 Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm alone?
- 12 And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

3c. Shaping Small Groups

Hebrews 10:23- 25

23 Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

24 And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:

25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

MHBC Mission Statement

- Seeking to Grow in Christ,
- Teaching to Build the Family,

Teaching to Build the Family

- Responsible Men
- Reverent Women
- Respectful Children

MHBC Mission Statement

- Seeking to Grow in Christ,
- Teaching to Build the Family,
- Ministering to Change Lives,

Ministering to Change Lives

- One Church...
- One Goal...
- One Soul

Ephesians 4:4-6

- 4 There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;
- 5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism,
- 6 One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

1 Corinthians 9:19-22

19 For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more.

20 And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law;

21 To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law.

22 To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.

MHBC Mission Statement

- Seeking to Grow in Christ,
- Teaching to Build the Family,
- Ministering to Change Lives,
- Worshipping to Connect With God

1. Prevailing With a Sacrificial Heart

Romans 12:1

1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

2. Praying With a Contrite Heart

Psalms 51:16-17

16 For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it: thou delightest not in burnt offering.

17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

3. Praising With Joyful Hearts

Psalms 100

1 Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands.

2 Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing.

3 Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

4 Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

5 For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.

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Hebrews 10:10-14

- 10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.
- 11 And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins:
- 12 But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;
- 13 From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool.
- 14 For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.

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