

I. REVIEW – LOVE JESUS, LOVE PEOPLE – LUKE 10:27

²⁷ So he answered and said, “ ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.’ ²⁸ And He said to him, “You have answered rightly; do this and you will live.” Luke 10:27-28

- A. We are talking in this series about our vision and purpose as a local church community. Vision helps direct our mission and purpose, which in turn impact the way we build our culture.
- B. When we build our vision on key components given by Jesus and found in His Word, we create foundations that can withstand the shakings (troubles) that challenge our faith.
- C. Key Component #1 – *Love Jesus* (Passion for Jesus). Also known as the First Commandment.
- D. Key Component #2 – *Love People* (Compassion for People). Also known as the Second Commandment which Matthew and Mark record Jesus as saying, “...and the second is like the first” (Matt. 22:37-40; Mark 12:29-31).
- E. We love Jesus and others **wholeheartedly, willfully, intentionally, and passionately**.
- F. Jesus’ promise that, “You shall love...” is his commitment to help us as the work of Holy Spirit seeks to transform our lives.
- G. The key components of our vision should carry *visionary identity, directional focus, and clarity with timing*. I like to say that a healthy vision statement also points to our mission or purpose.

II. MAKE DISCIPLES – DEVELOPING THE PROTOTYPE OF CHRIST – COL. 1:27

27 ...Christ in you, the hope of glory. Col. 1:27

Then He called His twelve disciples together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases. ² He sent (apostello) them to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick. Luke 9:1-2

After these things the Lord appointed seventy others also, and sent (apostello) them two by two before His face into every city and place where He Himself was about to go. Luke 10:1

- A. Key component #3 – Make Disciples – As a disciple of Christ, patterned after the prototype of Jesus Christ who was sent by the Father; you have been called and are to be equipped in your “tradecraft”, to advance the Kingdom of God.
 - 1. Your primary occupation if you can receive it, is to be a disciple of Jesus who advances the Kingdom of God; not just a follower seeking to get their daily needs met and trying to stay out of sin.
- B. You are one person who is part of a greater kingdom of people, a family of brothers and sisters, mothers and fathers, grandparents in the Spirit who are unified around this one common goal: to advance the Kingdom of God in this present fallen world, following the pattern of Jesus.

C. Jesus was Father God's "disciple" (ambassador) "sent one" to the earth with his identity (Son) and character intact. Jesus' statement of love to the Father was to complete a mission he was born to do.

²¹ So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." John 20:21

D. Jesus was a "sent one" from the Father. John the Baptist claimed to be sent, appointed to a purpose and task (John 3:28).

1. "Sent" or "Sent one" (G649 – *apostello*) = set apart, i.e. (by implication) to send out (properly, on a mission) literally or figuratively
2. The implication is that the one who does the sending has chosen and equipped the one sent to fulfill the appointed task for which they were sent.
3. To be sent of the Father implies there has been an investment by the sender that authorizes the one sent.

E. So my friends I am not talking about a form of disciple making that has you solely focused on a good relationship with God and purity from sin. I am happy to see that develop of course; however, my heart burns for a people who are first and foremost those who love Jesus and seek to advance his Kingdom.

F. If Jesus was sent by the Father to advance the Kingdom of God, and Jesus has sent us in the same way (John 20:21), then our primary purpose in disciple making should be no different.

G. I have been speaking our vision series primarily from the section of Luke's gospel, chapters 8-11.

1. In these chapters we have – Jesus' invitation to follow him (9:23, 59, 61), the training, equipping, empowering and sending of disciples (9:1-2; 10:1), preaching of the Kingdom of God (9:6), healings, miracles, signs and wonders – so power ministry (Luke 8-10).
2. Jesus is revealed in glory, sick bodies are healed, demons are driven out, storms are rebuked, the dead are raised, lives are saved, broken lives are restored, compassion is released, comfort is given, thousands are miraculously fed, and so on and so on.
3. This is the prototype of a disciple of Jesus Christ.
4. When we say we want to "make disciples", this is what we are talking about.

H. We are talking about a people who are *wholehearted, willful, intentional* and *passionate* men and women who know God **AND** who want to make Him known on this earth in and through their lives.