

Faith Matters 5- The Church and the Commission

When groups of transformed individuals united in Christ gather together to seek justice with mercy and freedom and with love, powerful things happen.

17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 2 Corinthians 3:17

The church is a living, breathing spiritual organism grown in power of a risen Jesus Christ.

4 As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— 5 you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 1 Peter 2:4-5

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” Matthew 28:18-20

In our part of the world and in our generation, the greatest church scandal is Spiritual Apathy.

“‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’] 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ 40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.” Matthew 22:37-40

If you feel like the great commission is someone else’s responsibility, then you have not internalized the gospel call.

9 If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. Romans 10:9-10

You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder. James 2:19

A convert bargains with God about what he or she is willing to do, a disciple offers nothing to God because he or she knows that they have nothing to offer.

A church full of people who embrace a call that costs nothing and requires nothing will ultimately result in nothing.