7 Myths About Church Growth

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INTRODUCTION

- What we mean by myth is that which is to be distinguished from fact.
- I think there's some false notions about churches that are growing.

1 God Isn't Interested in Numbers

Acts 2:41; Luke 15; 2 Timothy 2:19

- God is very interested in numbers.
- There were added that day about 3,000 souls.
- God cares about the salvation of souls. Each number represents a soul.
- Now we're not interested in numbers for numbers' sake.

2 You Must Sacrifice Quality for Quantity

Mark 1:17; 1 Corinthians 3:7

- Not just numbers, not just quantity, but quantity and quality.
- I will make you fishers of men. Again, he's concerned about numbers.
- Quality with God's blessing will translate into quantity most often.
- People will want to be a part of a thriving work where worship stimulates, where instruction motivates, and where there is leadership and compassion among the people.

3 Growing Means Compromising God's Message

Hebrews 4:12; Luke 8

- Some people believe that if you're growing, that must mean that you are compromising God's message.
- The word of God is powerful.
- If a person has the right heart, then he's going to produce the fruit of God's kingdom.
- But who says growth has to require compromise?

4 Churches Grow at the Expense of Other Churches

Revelation 2; Revelation 3

- It is if the people who come to us find themselves growing as a result of the change.
- If people are leaving us, then we need to be asking ourselves the question, why?
- We need to work outside of our comfort zone and realize that when somebody comes to us, they are an outsider.
- Larger does not have to equal less friendly, but the larger we become, perhaps the harder we're going to have to work.

5 If You Do Have Faith, You Will Grow

- But it is not a guarantee. You may talk to a hundred people and not convert a single one.
- May I recommend that you pray about the souls you're trying to teach.
- Sometimes it takes people time to decide if they're going to choose the Lord or not and choose his ways.
- Then we've just judged the likes of Noah, who apparently preached for a hundred years and was only able to save his three sons and their wives and his own wife.

6 God Only Expects Faithfulness

1 Corinthians 11

- Our goal is to bring people to faith and trust in the Lord and his word.
- It's about faithfulness in our lives.
- Those should be a springboard to faithfulness in our lives. This is not an end in and of itself.
- True faithfulness cannot be separated from fruitfulness.

THE CHALLENGE

If there's someone in this audience tonight who's not yet in Christ, we want to encourage you to embrace the message of God to salvation.

MY NOTES