A Model Church For A Modern World

Tony Mauck · 1 Timothy 3:15

INTRODUCTION

- A church is not of Christ, merely because a sign says so.
- It's always what Christ thinks about us that makes us a church.
- How God builds a great church. One and only one way. When people submit and obey.

1 It's Not About Attracting the Masses

1 Peter 3:20; John 6:26–27; 2 Peter 1:8

- So many today have changed the way they do church to be more appealing to the outsider. The danger with that kind of an approach is that it usually means compromise.
- If that doesn't tell us anything, God doesn't want numbers for numbers' sake.
- When you start bringing in numbers for numbers' sake, You're going to bring in folks in the church who are not of Christ.
- He turned to his disciples and said, What about you guys? Will you also go away?
- If these qualities are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- A model church for a modern world involves humble seekers. Those who simply humbly want to submit to the king, Jesus Christ.

2 Corrupting God's Blueprint With a Humanitarian Emphasis

Acts 6; 1 Timothy 5:16; John 17:3

- So many folks today want to corrupt God's blueprint for the local church by developing a humanitarian emphasis.
- Certainly, if we see a brother or a sister in need, we're to respond to that need and not wait for the church to do it.
- The church, as a collective entity, was never given that responsibility by the Lord. And again, it comes down to submitting to his blueprint.
- When it comes to meeting the physical needs of people, it was always limited to those who are in Christ.
- Let not the church be burdened. This is not our overarching mission to feed hungry people, not even our own people.
- The Lord's church is about dispensing the information that saves people's souls. Again, the church is the pillar and support of truth. That's our overriding mission.

3 Corrupting God's Design With a Consumer Mentality

Acts 20:27; 2 Corinthians 12:15; Matthew 16:24–25

- A lot of folks want to corrupt God's design by developing a consumer mentality.
- The issue is not what can the church provide for me. It is not what can I get, but what can I give?
- This must not be viewed as a place of taking. This should instead be viewed as a place of giving.
- When you're busy serving, you don't have time to care about who is serving you.
- I'm going to have a servant's heart. Not the consumer mentality. And not because I'm special, but because Jesus is something special and I owe him everything.
- It's a way of life. Take up your cross and follow me. Lose your life for my sake and find it.

THE CHALLENGE

Don't develop the consumer mentality. We must develop a servant's heart to truly be like Jesus.

MY NOTES