

Discussion Questions • Mission

Title of Sermon: Our Vision for Northview

Passage: Matt 28:19-20; Acts 2:42-47; Matt 25:14-30

Intro -

1. What is the best idea you have had? Did you put it into practice? How?
2. Why do we often fail to put our great ideas into practice? What stops us? How do we overcome those barriers so that we can see our good ideas come to fruition?

Sermon Points -

1. Three Biblical Propositions
 - a. What is the mission of the church? What does the church exist to do? What were the marching orders Jesus gave to us (Matthew 28:18-20)?
 - b. In Acts, Paul is portrayed as a church planter. He doesn't just preach the Gospel to people and leave them all alone by themselves, but rather he gathers them together in fledgling churches. Why? What is so important about the church?
 - c. What do you think of the church father, Tertullian's famous line, "You cannot have God as your father if you do not have the church as your mother"?
 - i. Can you be a Christian by not being part of a local church?
 - ii. Can you be a healthy Christian by not being part of a local church?
 - iii. Why do you think some are so reticent to be part of local Christian churches?
 - d. In the Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30), what is it that the Master expects from his servants upon his return?
 - i. What will it take from them to receive a commendation from the Master?
 - ii. What stops us from "doubling the Master's money"?
 - e. What do you think of the idea that "Northview exists to glorify God by making disciples through the multiplication of healthy local churches all over the place"? What would it require for this idea to come to fruition?
2. Two Practical Implications
 - a. What are some of the ways that Northview is not as healthy a church as it could be? Please don't let this devolve into a gripe session, but rather make suggestions of ways that the church could improve its ministries.



- b. Given the need for more space to accommodate people and the need for longer services to make sure they are being discipled in healthy ways, what are your thoughts regarding a new building on our campus? What questions would you need to have answered to make this a more compelling idea?
- c. Where do you think we can plant churches in the Lower Mainland? What communities are particularly in need of good, Bible preaching, Gospel-centred churches?
- d. Why is it so hard for churches today to find capable pastors to lead their churches? What can be done to help this?
- e. How important is the local church to the renewal of cities and the proclamation of the Gospel around the world? Should missionaries be deliberately linked with local churches or is it just as good if they are on their own working to establish other kinds of ministries?

Wrap Up and Prayer

From your discussion, what resonated with you individually or as a group? Was there anything not discussed that stuck out to you from the sermon? Pray for each other along with other requests.

Benediction - Romans 15:5-6 NIV

"May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."