

# What Business Are We In?

## The Scriptures

<sup>18</sup>“Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>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, <sup>20</sup>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 18:18-20

<sup>1</sup>“After Jesus said this, He looked toward heaven and prayed: Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. <sup>2</sup>For you granted Him authority over all people that He might give eternal life to all those you have given Him. <sup>3</sup>Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup>I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do.”  
- John 17:1-4

<sup>33</sup>“In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple.”  
- Luke 14:33

<sup>8</sup>“This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.”  
- John 15:8

<sup>31</sup>“To the Jews who had believed Him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.”  
- John 8:31

<sup>16</sup>“You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit — fruit that will last.”  
- John 15:16

What are reasons some churches exist (wrong reasons)?

## The Business of the Church?

### • To Make Disciples!

- Going = winning people you meet
- Baptizing = grounding them in the essentials
- Teaching to Obey = equipping them to follow God

What About These Other Possible Purposes?

#### 1. To glorify God??

“I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do.”  
- John 17:4

#### 2. To nurture believers??

“Because of my chains, most of the brothers in the Lord have been encouraged to speak the word of God more courageously and fearlessly.” - Philippians 1:14

#### 3. To win the lost??

“The church that exhales disciples inhales converts.” - LeRoy Eims

#### 4. To worship God??

“In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of His robe filled the temple. <sup>5</sup>“Woe to me!” I cried. “I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty.” - Isaiah 6:1,5

## The Five Pillars of Discipleship

### 1. Passion. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

“In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple.”  
- Luke 14:33

1. What’s my highest priority in life?
2. Is my passion for Christ obvious?

### 2. Obedience. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

“A student is not above his teacher, but everyone who is fully trained (discipled) will be like his teacher.”  
- Luke 6:40

1. How much am I like Christ?
2. Am I doing what I can to be perfect?

### 3. Knowledge. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

“To the Jews who had believed Him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.”  
- John 8:31

1. Do I use my Bible as a tool or as a membership card?
2. Am I striving to become more proficient in using this tool?

### 4. Ministry. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms.”  
- 1 Peter 4:10

1. Do I know what God has designed for me to do?
2. Am I using my gifts faithfully and regularly in the church?

### 5. Outreach. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

“This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. <sup>16</sup>...bear fruit —fruit that will last.”  
- John 15:8,16

1. Do I really care about those who don’t know Christ?
2. Am I doing anything about that?

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3. To \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_??  
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