

“Christ’s Church”

1 Timothy 4:16

June 18, 2017

VIDEO: “Cruise-ship or Battleship”

WELCOME:

1. Today will be focused on “biblical Church”
2. D.P. #25... “Miraculous Metamorphosis” (1/2 thru)
3. Our objective today is to empower **1 Timothy 4:16**

Pay close attention to yourself and to your doctrine/teaching; persevere/persist in these things, for as you do this you will ensure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you.

PRAYER

Timeless TRUTH: God’s people gather for community
& scatter for a cause!

PREVIEW: 7 Essential Facets of Christ’s Church

1. Our Meaning
2. Our Messiah
3. Our Message
4. Our Methodology
5. Our Membership
6. Our Mess/Mission
7. Our Manifesto

I. Our MEANING

A. First issue: Who gets to define the Church?

- a. Anyone... Everyone...? = “Mr. Potato-Head”
- b. No-one?
- c. God’s Word! (**2 Timothy 3:16-17**)
 - i. Biblical **Definitions** TRUTH
 - ii. Biblical **Expectations** LOVE
 - iii. Biblical **Inspections** OBEDIENCE
 - iv. Biblical **Reactions** BIBLICAL
 - v. Biblical **Aspirations** MISSIONAL

B. What the **Church is NOT**:

- a. Cemetery
- b. Classroom
- c. Carwash
- d. Convenience store
- e. Catering-service
- f. Carnival/Circus
- g. Country-club

C. Biblical “church” = “ekklesia” in “koinonia”

- a. Generically defined as “gathering of people”
- b. Christ’s Church = the called out, set-apart, Spirit-filled, sent-servants of Jesus Christ!
- c. BOTH the macro & micro Church = QUILTS

D. Biblical Church is biblically described/defined:

- a. Beloved-family
- b. Body of Christ
- c. Bride of Christ

- d. Ambassadors of Christ
- e. Aroma of Christ
- f. Army of Christ
- g. Salt, Light & Hope of the world...
- h. Kingdom of God in the kingdom of the world

VIDEO: “Koinonia in Ekklesia”

*“As members of the church, it’s important for you... to have a proper understanding of the church, including what it is and what it is supposed to do... **The church is a family of (biblical) believers** who gather for community (a.k.a. “koinonia”) and then scatter to accomplish the mission of God... The early church was a powerful movement that was **both initiated and sustained by God.** People were saved. Lives were transformed. The gospel was preached, and people were sent out to tell the nations about Jesus... Yet even in the early church, there were times when Christians needed a reminder to continue... fulfilling their purpose.”*

II. Our **MESSIAH**

- A. The biblical Church sovereignly **belongs** to Christ
- B. The biblical Church was **blood-bought** by Christ!
- C. The biblical Church will be **built** by Christ
- D. The biblical Church will be **blessed** in Christ!
- E. The biblical Church is the **beloved** of Christ!

III. Our **MESSAGE**

A. Here are 6 comprehensive “biblical umbrellas”

- a. Jesus is Lord!
- b. Repent and believe!
- c. Count the cost!
- d. Love one another!
- e. Be supernaturally unified!
- f. Go make disciples!

B. *The Church’s message is the message of Christ!* – JDP

C. **Kerygma**

- a. **Glory** to God (“Jesus is Lord!”)
- b. **Gospel** of God (“Truth in Love”)
- c. **Gathering** for God (“Come and see”)
- d. **Growing** in God (Disciples make disciples)
- e. **Going** with God (You will be My witnesses)

D. Christ’s message **divided crowds/unified Church**

VIDEO: “Biblical Crowds vs. Church” – F.Chan
(look at Rev. 21:7; Acts Church; “my church”)

Kerygma without Koinonia is a contradiction! – JDP

IV. **Our METHODOLOGY**

A. Spiritual questions:

- a. “Do methods matter?”
- b. “Do the ends justify the means?”

B. **Biblical Answer:**

- a. Methods are more than means to an end...
- b. **Methodology (a.k.a. witness) IS the mission!**

- c. Mechanical methods lack eternal power - JDP
- d. **Missional methods LIVE eternal power!** - JDP
 - 1. Biblical **mandates** (“prescriptive”)
 - 2. Biblical **examples** (“descriptive”)
 - 3. Biblical **principles** (“timeless”)

C. *We gather for community & scatter for a cause!*

Discipleship is the doorway of the church. – JDP

D. **So what? Let’s look at the consequences...**

VIDEO: “Mission & Methodology”

- No fishing with bait...
- No low cut shirts...
- No hiked up skirts...

***** Watch:** ***“Suicide of the Church”***

T/S: Biblical methods are made for cemetery evangelism. - JDP

V. **Our MEMBERSHIP**

- A. ***“You MUST be born again”*** to be a true member
- B. Visible church...
- C. Invisible Church...
 - a. Born-again Believers...

- b. Spirit-led & fed, sent & serving-souls
- c. Cross-carrying, Christ-following, fishers...
- d. Grace-gifted, Repentant-responders...
- e. Faithfully-obedient Discipling-Disciples...
- f. Missional-ministers of reconciliation...
- g. Local, Regional & Global-Missionaries...
- h. Christ's Ambassadors, Aroma, & Army...
- i. We are the salt & light of the earth...
- j. Christ's Church is Christ's conduit of:
 - i. Truth
 - ii. Love
 - iii. Hope to the World...

*** ALL by God's grace & ALL for God's glory! ***

- D. Church membership is a commitment to ekklesia
- E. Kingdom/Church membership has eternal:
 - a. Privileges
 - b. Responsibilities
- F. **Eph. 4:3** *"zealously protect the unity of the body"*

VIDEO: "Understanding Membership"

- G. Membership implications in Ekklesia in Koinonia
 - a. "Gatherings" defined = membership
 - b. "Discipline" administered = membership
 - c. "Leadership" equipping = membership
 - d. "Accountability" dynamics = membership
- e. **Christ's Church champions koinonia...**
 - i. John 17 & 1 John 1:6-7

- ii. Hebrews 10
- iii. 90 of 114 expressions of ekklesia
- iv. Acts 2:41-47 (fellowship & common)
- v. 1 Corinthians 10:16

ILLUSTRATION: [H2O as ekklesia in koinonia](#)

“The early church experienced community in a way that created inseparable & unbreakable bonds.” – DP

VI. **Our MESS/MISSION**

- A. A close & simple look at **“wrong & right”** church
 - a. What wrong & right Church **“looks like”**
 - b. What wrong & righteous Church **“lives like”**

VIDEO: “Hurting vs. Healthy Church”

- B. Mission is always under attack (hence the mess)
- C. Why don't we see more healthy Churches?

- a. Sin
- b. Unbelief
- c. Selfishness vs. Selflessness
- d. Lack of love...
 - i. Our worship defines our fellowship!
 - ii. Our mission defines our ministry...
 - iii. *“High quality harvest - low quantity workers.”*

D. Mission comes thru:

- a. Meaning (truth/definitions)
- b. Messianic ambassadorship
- c. Message (proclamation no matter what!)
- d. Methodology (WITNESS vs. worldliness)
- e. Membership (KOINONA!)
- f. Ministry (works of worship)
 - i. Ephesians 2:10
 - ii. 1 John 3:18
 - iii. 1 John 2:6
 - iv. John 14:15 & 20:21
 - v. Acts 1:8 & Matthew 28:18-20

VII. Our **MANIFESTO**

A. Here's a diagnostic & calibrating question

a. *Do you feel more **challenged or charged?***

b. Read and respond to **2 Corinthians 13:5**

B. Knowing what you now know...

a. **What do you want?**

b. Do you want to BE Christ's Church?

c. Have you been **miraculously empowered?**

d. Are Christ's purposes/priorities yours?

e. **Will you persevere...** no matter what?!?!

C. I leave you with our biblical... BRIDGE Manifesto:



One FAITH. One FAMILY. One FOCUS.

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will BE My witnesses (locally, regionally, and globally).” – Acts 1:8

One Question: *WHAT DO YOU WANT?*
One Offer: *COME AND SEE.*
One Promise: *TRUTH IN LOVE!*

Our Truth-in-Love Distinctives: We are...

- 1.** Responding to grace & repenting of sin...
- 2.** Trusting the Bible & obeying God's Word...
- 3.** Growing in-Christ & living Spirit-led...
- 4.** Praying for guidance & following by faith...
- 5.** Dying to self & carrying our cross...
- 6.** BE-ing the Church & loving one another...(*truly loving* one another)
- 7.** Equipping the saints & exemplifying supernatural unity...
- 8.** Ministering as ambassadors & discerning matters shrewdly...
- 9.** Worshipping God vertically & experiencing Him horizontally...
- 10.** Proclaiming the Gospel (*no matter what*) & fishing for men...
- 11.** Making disciples-warriors & winning spiritual-warfare...
- 12.** Loving our King & serving His kingdom!

a. I pray you now BELIEVE this manifesto...

b. I pray you will BECOME this manifesto...

*I pray that TOGETHER
we will BE Christ's Church...
ALL for His glory & ALL by His grace.*

Amen & AMEN!

Let's Pray

Disciple's Path Teaching Texts:

➤ **Hebrews 10:19-25** (ESV)

¹⁹ Therefore, **brothers**, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus,

²⁰ by the new and living way that he opened for **us** through the curtain, that is, through his flesh,

²¹ and since **we** have a great priest over the house of God,

²² let **us** draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with **our** hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and **our** bodies washed with pure water.

²³ Let **us** hold fast the confession of **our** hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

²⁴ And let **us** consider how to stir up **one another** to love and good works,

²⁵ not neglecting to meet **together**, as is the habit of **some**, but encouraging **one another**, and all the more as **you** see the Day drawing near.

➤ **Acts 2:41-47** (ESV)

⁴¹ So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

⁴² And they **devoted themselves** to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³ And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles.

⁴⁴ And all who believed were together and had all things in common.

⁴⁵ And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.

⁴⁶ And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts,

⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

➤ **Matthew 28:19-20** (ESV)

¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

²⁰ teaching them to observe/obey all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

- “As members of the church, it’s important for you... to have a proper understanding of the church, including what it is and what it’s supposed to do. Explore Hebrews 10:19-25 to find some helpful insights about the body of Christ... See that **the church is a family of believers** who gather for community and then scatter to accomplish the mission of God...”
- “The early church was a powerful movement that was both initiated and sustained by God. People were saved. Lives were transformed. The gospel was preached, and people were sent out to tell the nations about Jesus... Yet even in the early church, there were times when Christians needed a reminder to continue meeting and fulfilling their purpose.”

Unpack the Story:

- **“The church is a family. The church isn’t an organization, a business, or an entrepreneurial enterprise. When a person comes to faith in Jesus, he or she becomes a part of God’s family – the Church. Just as someone is born into their physical family, Jesus said you must be ‘born again’ (John 3:3) to get into God’s family. In God’s family, God is our Father (Galatians 4:6), Jesus is our big brother (Hebrews 2:11), and Christians become brothers & sisters (see 1 Corinthians 7:15) as members of God’s household (Galatians 6:10).”**
- We need to recognize that there are many different representations of authentic, biblical “Church.”
 - Traditional
 - Home-based
 - Ethnic and inner-city
 - Westernized “mega”
 - Prison-housed
 - Etc.
- Local church expressions can reveal God’s micro, blessing through their internal diversity, as well as God’s macro, missional blessing through their eclectic, external make up.
- In short, BOTH God’s local AND global Church should look like our eclectic quilt.
- “It’s not enough to be a part of God’s family on a grand scale – what we refer to as the ‘universal-Church.’ We also need to be connected to a local collection of disciples... In other words, God wants you to find a home in a local church family. Scripture confirms this truth. The majority of instruction in the Bible concerning the church has in mind a local congregation of believers.”

- **“It would be a foreign concept to the biblical authors to think about being in the universal Church without attending/ADOPTING a local church.”**
- **We need to look-for, listen-to, learn-from, live-out & love ALL:**
 - **Biblical Definitions** **TRUTH**
 - **Biblical Expectations** **LOVE**
 - **Biblical Inspections** **OBEDIENCE**
 - **Biblical Reactions** **BIBLICAL**
 - **Biblical Aspirations** **MISSIONAL**
- “Christians & church families need to become more biblically literate... There needs to be a biblical understanding of Christianity’s core, skeletal truths that make up and uphold every expression of the universal Church. At the same time, there also needs to be a healthy comprehension of the gospel’s liberty and room for eclectic expression – the muscle & skin, if you will, of the local church. Where the church’s skeleton has Christ’s biblical DNA, so will its skin. At the same time, take note, just because the church’s ‘skin’ appears to be biblical, inspection of the skeletal core is still required.” - JDP
- “Too often, that which is biblically ‘prescriptive’ is negotiated down to a ‘descriptive’ role. Conversely, that which is biblically descriptive is erroneously elevated to an authoritative prescriptive place. Take heed, there is error to be found on both sides when they land outside the guard rails of the Bible’s narrow way of walking.” – JDP
- **1 DEFINITION of Church: “The church is a family of baptized believers in Jesus Christ who gather for community (koinonia) and scatter for the cause of telling the world about Jesus (mission).”**
 - **Define “ekklesia”**
 - **Define “koinonia”**
 - **Define “love”**
 - **Define “mission”**
 - **Define “ministry”**
 - **Now define “good church”**
- **What does it mean to gather for community & scatter for a cause?**
 - **“First, God’s people are called to be a part of a community.” - DP**
 - **“The early church experienced community in a way that created inseparable & unbreakable bonds. The apostles taught, lives were changed, and the Spirit moved. People gave generously to meet one another’s needs. They spent their time eating together in their homes and gathering in the temple courts for worship... It was an incredible period for the church.” - DP**
 - **Read Acts 2:41-47... Is this descriptive or prescriptive Scripture?**
 - What obstacle prevent modern churches from experiencing that level of community? ANSWER:
 - **SIN!**
 - Unbelief

- False teachers, converts, churches...
 - No worship
 - No walk
 - No worry
 - No work
 - No witness
 - Disobedience
 - Comfort
 - Distractions
 - Lack of love: *“The harvest is plentiful-workers are few.”*
- Our worship defines our fellowship.
 - Our mission defines our ministry.
 - Our gathering is for our scattering. (“Find the lost”)
 - Our scattering validates our gathering. (“Grow the found”)

ENGAGE:

“Today, like in the days of the early church, there are no perfect churches. Churches are filled with and lead by imperfect people.”

“Healthy families & churches work through conflict, exercising grace, extend forgiveness, and commit to working together for a common goal...”

“When people in churches work through their conflict in the proper way, treat each other with grace & forgiveness, and work together for the sake of the gospel, they find health & peace.”

- How does that happen?
- What does it look like?
- Where do we find the blueprint?
- What happens when we disagree on the blueprint?
- Do the ends justify the means???

Application:

- Hebrews 10:25 – “Let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.”
- Hebrews 13:7,17 -

Worship Reading Plan:

1. Colossians 3:12-17
2. Acts 2:37-47
3. Ephesians 2:13-22
4. Romans 12:4-8
5. Ephesians 4:1-16
6. 1 Corinthians 16:10-24
7. Romans 16:17-20

Personal Study:

- I. God's People Gather For Community: (see Acts 2:37-47)
 - a. DEVOTED to the Apostle's teaching
 - b. DEVOTED to "koinonia" / fellowship
 - c. DEVOTED to "breaking bread" together
 - d. DEVOTED to "prayer" / praying together
- II. God's People Scatter For A Cause
 - a. See **Acts 1:8 fulfilled**:
 - i. **Acts 5:28** (Jerusalem was filled with a gospel witness)
 - ii. **Acts 9:31** (multiple ekklesia throughout Jerusalem)
 - iii. **Acts 17:6** (the Church.... **"turned the world upside down"**)
 1. Accomplished in less than 20 years!
 - iv. **Colossians 1:5-6** (the gospel spread across the known world)
 1. Accomplished in less than 30 years!
 - b. See our **Ambassadorship: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21**
 - i. We are foreign representatives
 - ii. WE have an assignment/mission to fulfill
 1. **Romans 1:14**: "obligated" to share the gospel
 2. **Romans 1:16**: it is the power of God unto salvation
 3. **2 Timothy 2:2**: **discerning & multiplying discipleship!**
 - iii. Reflect on these passages:
 1. 1 Thessalonians 1:6-8
 2. 1 Timothy 2:3-4
 3. Revelation 7:9

Additional Perspective:

1. Meaning; Messiah's; Message; Methodology; Membership; Mess/Mission; & Manifesto
 - a. Meaning: (ekklesia)
 - i. Called out, set apart, servant-sent-ones... of Jesus the Christ!
 - ii. Wayne Grudem's Systematic Theology
 - iii. Bride, Body, earth-based-Kingdom of God... made up of:

1. Born-again Believers...
2. Spirit-led & fed, sent & serving-souls (see last week's sermon)
 - a. The Spirit empowers
 - b. The Spirit purifies
 - c. The Spirit reveal
 - d. The Spirit unifies
 - e. The Spirit responds
3. Cross-carrying, Christ-following, fishers of men...
4. Grace-gifted, Repentant-responders...
5. Faithfully-obedient Disciples who make disciples...
6. Missional-ministers of reconciliation...
7. Local, Regional & Global-Missionaries...
8. Christ's Ambassadors, Aroma, & Army...
 - a. Making disciplined-warriors
 - b. Winning spiritual warfare!
9. We are the salt & light of the earth...
10. Church is Christ's conduit of Truth, Love, & Hope to the World...

*** ALL by God's grace & ALL for God's glory! ***

iv. Visible vs. Invisible

1. Invisible = the real deal (1 John 3:18)
2. Visible = "Wii church"

b. Messiah's

- i. You were bought with a price
- ii. I will build My Church
- iii. Sovereign election

c. Message: (Kerygma)

- i. Glory to God ("Jesus is Lord!")
- ii. Gospel of God ("Truth in Love")
- iii. Gathering for God ("Come and see")
- iv. Growing in God ("Disciples making disciples")
- v. Going with God ("You will be My witnesses")

d. Methodology (miracle or mechanical; per the Word or per the World)

VIDEO: "Church Members or Consumers"

- i. Biblical mandates ("prescriptive")

- ii. Biblical examples (“descriptive”)
- iii. Biblical principles
- iv. Biblical imperatives
- v. Biblical indicatives
- vi. Discipleship is the doorway of the church. – JDP

VIDEO: “Paul Washer – Carnal Means...”

- No bait...
 - No hiked up skirts or low cut blouse
- *** The illuminating work of the Holy Spirit! ***
- Preaching in a cultural cemetery...

e. Membership

- i. Privilege & responsibility
- ii. Koinonia
 - 1. Supernatural Unity...
 - 2. Water ILLUSTRATION:
 - a. Case of bottled water
 - b. Large clear container of water
 - c. Koinonia is like being poured into the whole...
 - 3. See “koinonia” literally in:
 - a. The Lord’s Supper (1 Corinthians 10:16)
 - The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a **participation** in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a **participation** in the body of Christ?
 - b. “Fellowship” & “Common” in Acts 2:41-47
 - c. “Fellowship” in 1 John 1:6-7 (2X)
 - If we claim to have **fellowship** with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have **fellowship** with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.
 - d.
 - 4. Kerygma without Koinonia is a contradiction! - JDP
- iii. Our worship defines our fellowship
 - 1. Ekklesia = 114X in the New Testament...
 - 2. Koinonia (local unity) expressed in 90X of the 114!
- iv. Discipleship is worship
- v. Worship is warfare
- vi. Membership = family & soldiers

f. Mess & Mission

- i. What's right & what's wrong today...
 1. VIDEO: MacArthur – “Biggest problem in the American church”
- ii. Mission comes through Message
- iii. Mission comes through Methodology
- iv. Mission comes through Ministry
- v. See previous Easter message on what the Church is NOT...
 1. Classroom
 2. Carwash
 3. Convenience store
 4. Cemetery
 5. Carnival
 6. Cruise-ship (vs. Battleship or Aircraft-Carrier)

g. Manifesto:

- i. It's important to see BOTH the forest AND the trees of biblical Church!
- ii. VIDEO: J.I. Packer & MacArthur – “The Problem & the Portrait”
- iii. See: “False Conversions – The Suicide of the Church” by Mark Dever...
 1. **1 Timothy 4:16** - *Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers.*
 2. See the following:
 - a. The Plan (God has a distinctive & devoted “people plan”)
 - God to bring glory to Himself thru His people
 - God's people bring Him glory thru proclamation
 - God's people bring Him glory thru living witness
 - God's people bring Him glory by making disciples
 - God's power in His people living His purpose!
 - b. The Problem (God's people were/are unfaithful)
 - Sin
 - Spiritual warfare
 - “Surrendering to sin, self, & Satan”
 1. Rationalizing Compromising
 - Spreading
 1. Yeast
 2. New norms
 3. Works of the flesh vs. fruit of the Spirit
 - Standards
 1. Word is balanced vs obeyed
 - a. False teaching makes false converts
 - b. False converts hire false teachers!
 - c. 7 Key Truths always under attack:

- i. Judgment/hell is coming
 - ii. WE will be judged by God
 - iii. Men love darkness vs Light
 - iv. Our ONLY hope is in Christ!
 - v. The narrow path is costly
 - vi. The Best is yet to come
 - vii. We can deceive ourselves...
- *** 2 Corinthians 13:5

- 2. Worship becomes worldly
- 3. Walk is more talk
- 4. Work is ignored
- 5. Witness is lost cause lost is the witness!

c. The Source of the Problem(s)

- Teachers
 - 1. See Scriptural warnings of false teachers
 - 2. Importance of “under-shepherds”
- Doctrine
 - 1. False teaching makes false converts
 - 2. False converts hire false teachers!
 - 3. **7 Key Truths** always under attack:
 - a. Judgment/hell is coming
 - b. WE will be judged by God
 - c. Men love darkness vs Light
 - d. Our ONLY hope is in Christ!
 - e. The narrow path is costly
 - f. The Best is yet to come
 - g. We can deceive ourselves...

*** 2 Corinthians 13:5 ***
 - 4.
- Life/Living
 - 1. Five (5) PROBLEMS:
 - a. Churches without holiness
 - b. Churches without suffering
 - i. Health & wealth teachers
 - ii. Superficial-smiling...
 - iii. See 1st Peter on suffering...

*** “No cross – No crown!” ***
 - c. Churches without Truth
 - d. Churches without Love
 - e. Churches without koinonia

***Kerygma + ekklesia + koinonia...

d. Practical Steps:

- Always evangelize steadily & well – Spurgeon

- Always be shepherding the Shepherd's sheep
- Always remember your accountability to God

"I know the vanity of your heart and that you will feel mortified that your congregation is very small in comparison with those of your brethren around you. But assure yourself on the word of an old man, that when you come to give an account of them to the Lord Christ at His Judgment Seat, you will think you have had enough." – John Brown (to a pupil)

If you want to see a true biblical portrait of the Church... read Hebrews 10, 11, & 12!

2. Three key Greek words for today:
 - a. Kerygma
 - b. Ekklesia
 - c. Koinonia
3. Four biblical implications that validate church-membership
 - a. Gatherings = definition of ekklesia
 - b. Discipline = requires the boundaries of a body
 - c. Leadership = requires specific roles/responsibilities
 - d. Accountability:
 - i. Choose leaders
 - ii. Preaching the gospel
 - iii. Identifying members (1 Cor. 5)
 - iv. Sending missionaries
 - v. Love one-another!
 - vi. Spurring on...
 - vii. Witness through unity... (John 17)

Francis Chan: "If Jesus Were Your Pastor..."

- Revelation 21:7... "...cowardly, faithless... place will be in the lake of fire..."
- "If Jesus had a church in our town, mine would be bigger." – Francis Chan
- Do you feel peace about your life in light of the Bible?
- How did the Church become so radically different from the biblical Church?
 - It's like throwing fish at hamsters on an ice rink... & call it soccer.....
 - Are you getting your definitions & expectations from the Bible?
- See Acts:
 - Jesus
 - John & Peter
 - Ananias & Sapphire
 - Stephen
 - Philip
 - Saul to Paul
 - Paul's missionary journeys...

- UNSTOPPABLE Church
- See today's cultural "church"
 - STOPPABLE church
 - Superficial connection vs. Spirit-empowered koinonia
 - Consumers vs. Christians
 - Self-centered vs. Sent & Serving-centered