

A GREAT CHURCH

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Gray

Introduction

1. Text Acts 11:22-26
2. There are a few men who are great enough with the English language that they can paint a beautiful picture of certain times, place, and people.
3. Our Lord has painted us a picture of a great church. Mark 16:16 Colossians 1:23
4. This church of or text is a church that is such a picture.
5. Many people put up barriers that don't exist, telling themselves that they can't do something. Matthew 25:24-30
6. We can do it. Philippians 4:13

II DISCUSSION

A. What does this church look like?

1. The members are growing spiritually. II Peter 1:3-6; 3:18 Galatians 5:22-23; Romans 8:6 Spiritual things in the mind spiritual things out of the mind.
2. They were people who had a vision. Proverbs 29:18
 - a. Vision is this passage deals with the revelation of God.
 - b. The people of the first century had revelation from God.
Mark 16:16 Colossians 1:23
 - c. We have the same revelation today that they had.
3. Does good to the needy. James 1:27; Galatians 6:10 Not just talk about it. James 2:15-16
4. Has difficulty seating those who come to its assemblies. Acts 5:42 Hebrews 10:25
5. Has a well-attended Bible School. Hebrews 10:24; Psalm 119:11
 - a. This is the church at work in evangelism and edification giving the members information, fortification, immunization, and association.
6. Training well developed leaders, (elders, deacons, preachers).

B. How can this become reality here in Gray.

1. See the people. That is fine but what do we mean;
2. Sleeping Saints must wake up. Romans 13:11; Ephesians 5:14
3. We must become opportunity conscious. Matthew 25:14-30
4. Forget past difficulties and accomplishments. Philippians 3:13-14
5. Go to work. John 9:4 ; 4:35

C. Do we have what it takes?????

1. Do we have money, talents, and tools?
2. But does the church have YOU? II Corinthians 8:5 ; I Timothy 4:15 Titus 2:14

3. You can do this by;

1. Pledge your prayers. Matthew 7:7 John 15:7
2. Pledge your presence. Hebrews 10:25
3. Pledge your participation Ephesians 4:15-16
4. Pledge your pockets. I Corinthians 16:1-2
5. Pledge your perseverance. Galatians 6:9; I Corinthians 15:58

III Conclusion

1. Don't say this picture is unrealistic. Look at the church in Antioch.
2. Are you an asset or a liability to the church? A negative response here is a negative response in regard to one salvation.
3. Obey God and have a positive salvation.

Source: 1987 sermon