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A Strong Building for Jesus

Part 4 of the "Ten Powerful Descriptions of a Church on Mission with God"

Ephesians 2:19-22

Feb. 3, 2019

When we are living on mission for Christ, we are building something...

1. With God's precious foundation. (Ephesians 2:20; I Cor. 3:11)
2. With God's power. (Psalm 127:1; Matt. 16:18; Hebrews 3:4)
3. With God's people. (Eph. 2:21-22; I Peter 2:5)
4. For God's purposes. (Eph. 2:21-22)

Application:

1. Evaluate the ministries that you are part of and make sure that Jesus is clearly the foundation in everything that you are doing. What can you do to make sure that it is all about Him?
2. Our time in prayer reveals how much we are relying on the strength of the Lord. Are you allowing time in your daily schedule to connect with God in prayer?
3. In what way are you living on mission with others? What can you do as a life group to serve "better together?"



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Life Group Questions/ Discussion

Main thought of the Study – Similar to a building project, being on mission for Christ involves some similar ingredients and preparation. This week we will see what it takes to be on mission for the Lord using the illustration of a “building.”

Introduction Discussion – Share a time when you were part of a “building” project at a church or building your own house or doing a remodel. Was it a good experience? A difficult experience? Why or why not?

Reflections from the Message

1. Discuss the value of a good foundation with every building project. What happens when the foundation is wrong? When we are on mission for the Lord we must have the right foundation. What does that look like? (Ephesians 2:20; I Corinthians 3:11; Isaiah 28:16) Give examples of churches or Christ-followers that miss this step. How do we know if our foundation is good? What would you see if it is not right?
2. Life on mission must be a work of God in us and through us. Who supplies the power we need to be on mission for the Lord? (Psalm 127:1) Sometimes we think it is all about us performing for God, but who is building the church? (Matthew 16:18; Hebrews 3:4) What is the difference between a church that is growing because of a work of God and one that is due to man’s effort? (I Corinthians 3:10; Colossians 2:19)
3. Last week we learned that “unity brings opportunity.” Identify all the different ingredients in building a house. (Wood, nails, etc.) Read Ephesians 2:21-22 and describe the ingredients in a building project for the Lord. After reading Ephesians 4:16 what is involved in being on mission for the Lord? How do relationships play a part? Share a time when you did an outreach with other Christ-followers. Was it “better together?” Why?
4. Everything that we do to live on mission for the Lord must come down to pleasing the Lord. He is the ultimate “building inspector.” Describe the final inspection day from the Lord found in I Corinthians 3:10-15. What makes a “good” inspection or a “failed” inspection? (I Peter 2:5)

Application:

1. To live a life on mission has some similar ingredients to a building project. Which aspect of your building project do you feel needs to be improved? (Your foundation? Your source of power? Your relationships? Your purpose?)
2. Share with one another some ideas on how to keep the focus on Christ and how to keep relying on His power.
3. Pray together for a new perspective on living on mission for the Lord. Make plans to do an outreach together this month. Debrief afterwards concerning the focus, the power, the relationships and the purpose.