Pln14 - Good News For All Nations -

We're <u>still following</u> - <u>MULTIPLY</u> - Our <u>desire</u> is to give you <u>ANOTHER</u> Resource - to go along w/ this Book

& more **importantly** - Our **Desire** is to Give you <u>Better Understanding</u> of **God's Single Plan of Redemption: Genesis to Revelation**

<u>We've Followed God's Plan in the N.T. for just 4 Msg's so far</u> <u>Jesus The Messiah</u> - *The Culmination* of God's Plan <u>The Great Commission</u> - *The Final Marching Orders* from our Lord <u>The Spirit of God</u> - *Our ONLY Hope* to Follow Jesus <u>The Early Church</u> - *How Jesus designed* His Body to Look

& that takes us perfectly to today - "Good News For All Nations"

Now - We studied <u>The Great Commission</u> HARD just <u>3 WKS Ago</u> But <u>today</u> The Call is to <u>EXPAND our VIEW</u> to the <u>Ends of the Earth</u>

In The <u>Great Commission</u> Msg - We talked about <u>Making Disciples</u> <u>AS YOU GO</u> - <u>Whether</u> to <u>AFRICA</u> - to <u>WORK</u> - to <u>HOME</u>

AS we are Going - we are called to Be Making Disciples

But that "<u>AS you are GOING</u>" - Doesn't Mean <u>Making Disciples</u> is a Secondary Purpose in our Salvation

<u>Actually</u> - Making Disciples <u>of ALL Nations</u> - To <u>the END of the Earth</u> Is the <u>PRIMARY PURPOSE</u> Of the <u>BODY of CHRIST</u> One of the greatest tragedies that occurs in the Church - So often is

when a **person** gets **SAVED** - & they **think** - "**That's It**" - **I'm IN** -**I'm Good to Go** - *Now Let's see what else God can do for me*

The truth is - We have a bit of a SELF-CENTERED view of Salvation

<u>We</u> were told <u>God loves US</u> (& that's True) <u>We</u> were told <u>Jesus Died for Us</u> - to Pay for <u>OUR</u> Sin, & <u>That</u> He has <u>reserved</u> a place for <u>US</u>, & an inheritance for <u>US</u>

& <u>often</u> - we're <u>told</u> all those things <u>BEFORE</u> we Get <u>Saved</u> & - <u>they are ALL absolutely TRUE</u>

But <u>too often</u> - We <u>Surrender</u> our <u>Life to Christ</u> - We <u>Receive</u> all those <u>Miraculous</u>, <u>Eternal Benefits</u> of our <u>Salvation</u>

& then we **go on** about our **business** - **Assuming** (to a large extent) that **God** is **Primarily concerned** about **OUR** well-Being

& MAYBE - it's because we've never heard the REST of the Story

<u>Maybe</u> we've <u>never heard</u> - The <u>Greatest Blessing</u> is to be <u>USED</u> <u>BY God</u> - for His <u>Grand Eternal Purpose</u> - <u>WHILE</u> we're still <u>here</u>

<u>Today</u> we want to <u>SEE MORE</u> (Bigger Pic) - of <u>WHY</u> Jesus <u>Saved</u> us & <u>WHY</u> He <u>Made us</u> to be a <u>Functioning Part</u> of <u>His Body</u> on Earth

Ok? - - Let's Pray

Many Christians struggle to understand equally BOTH;

- 1) You were Saved *Personally* Because God Loves You AND
- 2) You were Saved <u>To Be</u> a <u>Functioning Part</u> of the Body of Christ, to Take Part in God's Plan & Purpose in this world

In **<u>Regard</u>** to this, <u>Francis Chan</u> says in His Book - <u>MULTIPLY</u>

Francis Chan:

God worked in your individual heart to give you new life, but salvation is not about your making it to heaven as an individual. <u>Jesus saves us as individuals to place us within a body - the</u> <u>church</u>. In reality, Jesus is the Savior of the church. He died to create a people who together <u>love and worship Him</u> and <u>fulfill His</u> <u>purposes</u> in the world.

Jesus died to create a people who:

<u>TOGETHER</u> - <u>Love & Worship</u> him, & <u>TOGETHER</u> - Fulfill <u>HIS Purposes</u> in the world

We looked <u>Last week</u> at The <u>EXAMPLE</u> of <u>HOW</u> the Early <u>Body of Christ</u> - <u>FUNCTIONED Together</u>:

- 1) They were Devoted to the Apostles Teaching
- 2) **They** were **Devoted** to **Koinonia** (Fellowship)
- 3) They were Devoted to Communion
- 4) **They** were **Devoted** to **Prayer**

IN ADDITION - They were UNITED They were RADICAL GIVERS They Attended CHURCH AND HOME FELLOWSHIPS They had GLAD & GENEROUS HEARTS

BUT WHAT WAS THEIR PURPOSE ??? WHAT was the Church Miraculously Formed - FOR ??

THREE Wks ago we looked in-depth at the Great Commission

& we **KNOW** The **Great Commission** is the **Answer** to the question -"What is the Purpose of the Body of Christ?" - Right??

The Body of Christ was Created;

#1) To Love & Glorify God

#2) To Make Disciples - OF ALL NATIONS

Our Focus today - is The OF ALL NATIONS - Part

The Bible Repeatedly Calls the Body of Christ To Be Making Disciples - To The Ends Of The Earth

& <u>Many Christians</u> would <u>AGREE</u> with that Statement -But <u>NOT</u> think that it's <u>actually</u> <u>Addressing them</u> - <u>Personally</u>

<u>It's common</u> for us to feel like - "Well yeah, sure, that's SOMEBODY'S JOB, somebody has to be concerned about THAT, But . . . It's Definitely NOT ME"

Here's the Problem . . . Consider YOUR Own Physical BODY

If your Head said to your Body - "Walk North"

& <u>you</u> have <u>One Leg</u> that says - <u>That's fine</u> with Me -<u>But</u> I'm gonna <u>walk SOUTH</u> - Things <u>aren't gonna</u> go well

The <u>Purpose</u> of your <u>Body</u> is to carry out the <u>instruc's</u> of your <u>HEAD</u> The <u>Purpose</u> of your <u>Body</u> is to carry out the <u>instruc's</u> of your <u>HEAD</u>

<u>When</u> you're <u>healthy</u> - Your <u>Head</u> says "<u>Do This</u>" & <u>your Body</u> - <u>DOES IT</u> & when **your Body refuses** to take **Direction** from **your Head** You can **end up** in a **very serious** & critical condition

<u>Jesus Christ</u> is the <u>HEAD</u> - WE are His <u>BODY</u> <u>Our Purpose</u> is to carry out <u>HIS Instruction</u> & <u>HIS Direction</u>

& the <u>Instruction</u> & <u>Direction</u> of the Head - is for <u>the Body</u> To <u>Go into</u> <u>ALL the World</u> - to <u>Seek & Save the Lost</u>

To GO & Make Disciples of ALL NATIONS

To Take the GOOD NEWS of Jesus to the Ends of the Earth

To <u>be CONSUMED</u> with <u>The Purpose</u> of the <u>HEAD</u> which is the <u>SALVATION of the LOST</u>

<u>Can we Really Say;</u> <u>YES</u>, we <u>ARE</u> part of the <u>Body of Christ</u> - But <u>NO</u> - We are <u>NOT CALLED</u> to be part of <u>taking the Gospel</u> to <u>The Ends Of The Earth</u> ?

<u>FIRST</u> - We have to <u>get it clear</u> in our Minds <u>WHAT</u> Instruction The <u>HEAD</u> has Given The <u>BODY</u>

Jesus is <u>the HEAD</u> - & His <u>PURPOSE</u> <u>Must SET</u> the <u>DIRECTION</u> of His <u>BODY</u>

<u>JUST LIKE</u> <u>YOUR Head</u> <u>Must SET</u> the <u>DIRECTION</u> of Your <u>BODY</u>

& <u>The HEAD</u> of the Body of Christ - has only <u>One PLAN</u> <u>One PURPOSE</u> - From <u>Genesis to Revelation</u> FIVE TIMES in Genesis - God Made a UNILATERAL PROMISE to Abraham - Gen 12:3, 18:18, 22:18, 26:4, 28:14

FIVE TIMES God Promised Abraham -"In You ALL the NATIONS of the EARTH will be Blessed"

In Isaiah 49:6 God says (ESV)

6... I will make you as a light <u>for the nations</u>, that my salvation may reach to <u>the end of the earth</u>."

<u>God's</u> Clear <u>SINGLE PURPOSE</u> - That His <u>Salvation</u> would reach the <u>Ends of the</u> Earth - Is <u>Consistent</u> <u>ALL</u> thru the Bible

From <u>GENESIS</u> - Thru <u>ISAIAH</u> (& every other O.T. Book) -Into the <u>GOSPELS</u> - & Especially into <u>ACTS</u> & Beyond to <u>REV</u>

In <u>Acts</u> - Paul & Barnabas <u>Quoted</u> this <u>Same Vs</u> from <u>Isaiah</u>

Acts 13:47 (ESV)

47 For so the Lord has commanded us, saying, "'I have made you a light for the Gentiles (Lit - Nations), that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.'"

& THAT is exactly what ACTS - & the Rest of the N.T. - is All ABOUT

It's about <u>the CHURCH</u> - <u>Bringing</u> God's <u>Plan of Salvation</u> To the <u>ENDS of the EARTH</u>

That was <u>the PURPOSE</u> of the Church The <u>Very DAY</u> God Created it & <u>THAT</u> is the <u>PURPOSE</u> of the Church <u>TODAY</u>!!

& <u>Since</u> there was <u>NO CHANCE</u> of us ever <u>doing that</u> on <u>our own</u> <u>Jesus</u> Promises us in <u>ACTS 1:8</u> $\rightarrow \rightarrow \rightarrow \rightarrow$ Acts 1:8 (ESV)

8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and <u>to the end of the earth</u>."

It's <u>that Phrase</u> - <u>to the end of the earth</u> that we <u>really want</u> to "<u>Wrestle With</u>" today

The <u>VERY CLEAR</u> <u>Instruction</u> & <u>Direction</u> of the Body's <u>HEAD</u> is <u>Take</u> the Gospel Message *TO THE END OF THE EARTH*

Jesus Died for you PERSONALLY - He SAVED you PERSONALLY

The <u>Benefits</u> & <u>Blessings</u> of your <u>Salvation</u> in Christ are <u>Indescribable</u> - & <u>Eternal</u> - & <u>PERSONAL</u>

But HIS Plan & HIS Purpose - is for you to be a *Functioning Part* of HIS Body

& a <u>Functioning Part</u> of His Body <u>MEANS</u> - You <u>TAKE PART</u> in <u>Carrying Out</u> the <u>Instructions</u> & <u>Direction</u> of <u>the Head</u>

That's TRUE in your Physical Body - & TRUE in the Body of Christ

Let's be **reminded** of **HOW TRUE** this is - **Turn to 1Cor 12**

I'm **going** to **skim thru** the "**One Body**" Section - **Vs's 12-31** & you can **study** the **entire Section** at home, ok?

1 Corinthians 12:12-27 (ESV)

12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. (we, all together, make up One Body)

. . .

. . .

14 For the body does not consist of one member but of many.

18 But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. (He placed where HE wanted)
19 If all were a single member, where would the body be?
20 As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.
21 The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you."

26 If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

27 Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

WE are the Body - & Jesus Christ is Our HEAD

& <u>The HEAD</u> - Has <u>given</u> <u>The Body</u> <u>Instruction</u> - <u>GO</u> <u>Make Disciples</u> - <u>of ALL Nations</u> - <u>to the End of the Earth</u>

That is **the instruction** from **the Head** to **EVERY Functioning Part** of the **Body** - **Every Member**

So - <u>HOW</u> do we <u>EACH</u> do that - How can <u>WE</u> be a <u>Functioning Part</u> of the <u>Body</u> - Whose <u>HEAD</u> has sent the <u>Instruction</u> . . . →

Take the Gospel to the Ends of the Earth -& Make Disciples of ALL Nations . . . (How do we become PART)

Well - FIRST - We Must ACCEPT the Instruction- PersonallyWe must RECEIVE the Direction from the HEAD - PersonallyWe must Make The Great Commission JUST AS Personal
as we made our Salvation

We <u>Must ACCEPT</u> that this <u>Direction</u> from the <u>HEAD</u> of the <u>BODY</u> <u>INCLUDES US</u> - <u>Personally</u>!

& <u>THEN</u> - We can <u>begin</u> to <u>Search</u> - <u>HOW</u> God has <u>Made us</u> to <u>FIT together</u> in the Body - To <u>Accomplish</u> His <u>Purpose</u>

<u>Fortunately</u> - in our <u>Physical Body</u> - <u>Every Part</u> Generally <u>KNOWS</u> what it's <u>ROLE is</u> - What it's <u>supposed</u> to be <u>doing</u>

In the Body of Christ - Not So Much

& <u>HERE</u> is <u>HOW</u> we <u>DO it</u> - <u>PIs Listen Carefully</u>

We must <u>seek to KNOW JESUS</u> - <u>Better & Better</u> -<u>FIRST & Foremost Developing</u> our <u>RELATIONSHIP</u> with Him

& - AS we PRESENT our Lives to God - as ROM 12:1 says

AS we're TRANSFORMED by the Renewing of our Mind - ROM 12:2

THEN - we will be able to DISCERN God's Will - ROM 12:2

Let's just **TURN over** to **ROM 12**

<u>Romans 12:1 (ESV)</u>

1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to <u>present your bodies as a living sacrifice</u>, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

<u>THAT'S STEP 1</u> - <u>THAT</u> is actually <u>HOW</u> we begin to KN<u>O</u>W <u>WHAT</u> our <u>ROLE</u> is - in God's Plan

Romans 12:2 (ESV)

2 Do not be conformed to this world, but <u>be transformed by the</u> <u>renewal of your mind</u> (That's Step 2), (& then) that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Listen - Pls **DON'T go buy** a Plane **Ticket** to **Zimbabwe** Tonight

<u>FIRST</u> - Learn to <u>Present</u> your <u>Entire Life</u> as a <u>Living Sacrifice</u> to God <u>THEN</u> - Be <u>Transformed</u> by the <u>Renewal</u> of Your Mind <u>THEN</u> - You'll <u>know</u> Where God has <u>MADE YOU</u> to <u>FIT</u>

Really, Honestly, Truly - The #1 Most Important step to Knowing What ROLE God has Made you for in His Body . . .

Is to KNOW HIM !!

KNOW HIM First - & THEN You'll KNOW what He's MADE you to be

& If we'll just KEEP READING in Rom 12 - There are Wonderful Vs's

Romans 12:3-8 (ESV)

3 For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. (God assigns, God decides, He's the Head) 4 For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function,

5 so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. (Same as 1Cor 12)

6 Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, <u>let us</u> <u>use them</u> (There's the KEY - Let us USE THEM): if <u>prophecy</u>, in proportion to our faith; 7 if <u>service</u>, in our serving; the one who <u>teaches</u>, in his teaching; 8 the one who <u>exhorts</u>, in his exhortation; the one who <u>contributes</u>, in generosity; the one who <u>leads</u>, with zeal; the one who does <u>acts of mercy</u>, with cheerfulness.

<u>Listen</u> to me <u>PIs</u> - There is <u>ONE HEAD</u> - <u>Christ</u> There is <u>ONE Body</u> - The <u>Church</u>

The <u>HEAD</u> has given the <u>BODY</u> a <u>SINGLE Command</u> *Make Disciples - of ALL Nations - To the Ends of the Earth*

& the <u>Body</u> must <u>MOVE in UNISON</u> to <u>Accomplish</u> the <u>Command</u> given by <u>the HEAD</u>

That is the ONLY way a HEALTHY Body FunctionsHEAD sends a COMMANDBODY Responds IN UNISON to accomplish the Command

<u>That's</u> the way a <u>Physical Body</u> is <u>Designed to Function</u> <u>That's</u> the way the <u>Body of Christ</u> is <u>Designed to Function</u>

Do we <u>ALL</u> have to go - <u>Physically</u> - <u>NO</u> Do we <u>ALL</u> have to <u>Do Something</u> - <u>YES</u>

WHAT is Your Part??

| SOME of you - PRAY | SOME of you - <u>GO</u> |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| SOME of you - SEND | SOME of you - EQUIP |
| SOME of you - SUPPORT | SOME of you - SERVE |
| SOME of you - EXHORT | SOME of you - <u>GIVE</u> |
| SOME of you - LEAD | SOME of you - LOVE |

BUT - We've got to LIFT our EYES UP We've GOT to LOOK toward ALL the <u>Nations Of The World</u> We've GOT to LOOK toward the <u>ENDS of THE EARTH</u>

I know I said before - We've got to MAKE Disciples WHERE We're AT

But **to Really RESPOND** to the **Command** of the **HEAD** - To **Really BE a PART** of the **HEALTHY BODY** of Christ

We have <u>GOT</u> to <u>LOOK to ALL the Nations of the world</u> We have <u>GOT</u> to <u>LOOK to The Ends of the Earth</u>

<u>Allow</u> me to just <u>REVIEW</u> How <u>I see US</u> - <u>Here</u> in Nuevo <u>Being Part</u> of this <u>ALL Nations</u>, & To the <u>Ends of the Earth</u> Command

<u>1st)</u> Over the <u>Years</u> we have done a <u>TON of Work</u> - & <u>Invested</u> a <u>TON of MONEY</u> - in <u>Making Disciples</u> in <u>San Vincente Mexico</u>

MANY of you have <u>Gone</u>, <u>Worked</u>, <u>GIVEN</u>, <u>Supported</u>, <u>Prayed</u> For, <u>Prepared</u> For, <u>Encouraged</u>, <u>Exhorted</u>, <u>Lead</u>, & <u>Loved</u>

& God has used this Body in Mexico - to do great Work

NEXT - In just a **Quick Calculation** - I know We've **invested** around **\$100,000** in **Making Disciples** in **Africa**

We've <u>Gone</u>, We've <u>Sent</u>, We've <u>Supported</u>, We've <u>Prayed</u>, We've <u>Trained</u>, We've <u>Encouraged</u>

& for the **past 8-9 mo's** - We've **actually** been **working on** a **New Phase** of our **Involvement** in **Making Disciples** in **Africa**

& <u>Finally</u> - We have <u>sent out</u> & <u>given</u> away Well Over <u>400,000 Bible</u> teaching <u>Messages</u> on <u>CD</u>

With <u>almost every one</u> of those <u>messages</u> <u>ending</u> with an <u>invitation</u> to <u>Receive Christ</u>

Honestly - MOST of our people here - Don't really understand how much Real, Measurable FRUIT God is bringing thru Word-By-Mail Not to mention the IMPACT we Can't Measure

In your **bulletin today** is this **month's Word-By-Mail** Newsletter

& it <u>explains</u> how <u>this year alone</u> <u>2013</u> - <u>Over 50,000 Bible Msgs</u> will <u>go out</u> from this <u>little church</u>

Due to the Astounding Growth of the Word-By-Mail PHONE APP

& Since we began W-B-M - there have always been CRITICS

saying - <u>WHY</u> Should we be <u>sending</u> <u>teaching</u> all over the <u>World</u> - <u>WHY</u> don't we <u>spend</u> all that <u>time & effort</u> right <u>here</u> in Nuevo

My answer is - WE DO Spend all that Time & Effort HERE in Nuevo

<u>Some</u> in the Body Minister Here in <u>Nuevo</u> <u>Some</u> in the Body Minister in <u>Mexico</u> <u>Some</u> in the Body Minister in <u>Africa</u> <u>Some</u> in the Body Minister to the <u>Ends of the Earth</u> with W-B-M

Hey - <u>Wait a Minute</u> - <u>That's EXACTLY</u> What the <u>Body</u> would <u>LOOK LIKE</u> when it's <u>Functioning Well</u> <u>We will be His Witnesses - in our Jerusalem</u> (Nuevo) In our <u>Judea & Samaria</u> - (Mexico) & To the <u>Ends of the Earth</u> (Africa & WBM)

<u>THAT</u> is what <u>Jesus</u> said would <u>Happen</u> in <u>Acts 1:8</u> & I <u>Promise you - That</u> is What is <u>Happening HERE</u>

The <u>Question</u> is - <u>HOW</u> Can <u>YOU</u> be a <u>PART</u> ? How can you <u>Function</u> in Your <u>ROLE</u> in the <u>Body</u> ?

The **SKY** is the **Limit** - There is **NO Pigeon Hole**

My <u>PURPOSE</u> today - is to <u>Encourage you</u> to <u>THINK</u> About it - <u>WRESTLE</u> with it . . .

<u>FIRST</u> - <u>KNOW</u> Jesus <u>Better & Better</u> & <u>BE TRANSFORMED</u> <u>More & More</u>

<u>Until</u> you say - <u>Hey</u> - I'm an <u>Active</u>, <u>Functioning</u>, <u>Fruitful Part</u> Of the <u>Body of Christ</u>

& <u>My Eyes</u>, & <u>My Heart</u>, Are <u>SET</u> - On <u>Sharing the Gospel</u>
 & <u>Making Disciples -</u> Right <u>Next Door</u> - <u>&</u> to the <u>Ends of the Earth</u>

 \rightarrow \rightarrow \rightarrow

<u>We have been Redeemed</u> to be <u>PART</u> of God's <u>PLAN</u> to <u>Save</u> those who are <u>Lost</u> - <u>Next Door</u>, & <u>Around the World</u>

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life (John 3:16)

God <u>So Loved</u> the <u>World</u> That He <u>Provided</u> the <u>Only Way</u> of <u>Salvation</u>

& <u>then</u> He <u>created US</u> - <u>AS</u> His <u>BODY</u> To <u>TAKE</u> that <u>Message</u> - to the <u>Ends of the Earth</u>

THAT is God's PLAN - for US as the Church

Let's have the Courage - to ASK Ourselves IF we are Functioning as PART of that Plan

& <u>IF NOT</u> - <u>HOW</u> can <u>we</u> be <u>Transformed enough</u> <u>So that</u> we <u>CAN BE</u>

Let's Pray