THE JOB'S NOT DONE 'TIL WE REACH EVERY ONE

#SHARE: Part 2 September 4, 2022 Pastor Brian

"Here is another illustration Jesus used: "The Kingdom of Heaven is like a <u>mustard seed</u> planted in a field. It is the smallest of all seeds, but it becomes the largest of garden plants; <u>it</u> grows into a tree, and birds come and make nests in its branches."" (Matthew 13:31–32, NLT)

Three Kinds of Church Growth

- BIOLOGICAL.
- TRANSFER.
- KINGDOM.

WHY WE BELIEVE IN CHURCH GROWTH

1. BECAUSE JESUS **COMMANDS** IT.

"<u>Go</u>, then, to all peoples everywhere and <u>make them my disciples</u>: <u>baptize</u> them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and <u>teach them</u> to obey everything I have commanded you. And I will be with you always, to the end of the age."" (Matthew 28:19–20, GNB)

"But my life is worth nothing to me unless <u>I use it for finishing the work assigned me</u> by the Lord Jesus—the work of <u>telling others</u> the Good News about the wonderful grace of God." (Acts 20:24, NLT)

2. BECAUSE PEOPLE NEED IT.

"When Jesus arrived, he saw this huge crowd. At the sight of them, <u>his heart broke</u>—like sheep with no shepherd they were. <u>He went right to work</u>..." (Mark 6:34, The Message)

As long as there is even **ONE** person without Christ in our area we must keep reaching out!

"[God] wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth." (1 Timothy 2:3–4, NLT)

"[God] is not willing that any should perish..." (2 Peter 3:9, The Living Bible)

3. BECAUSE JESUS WANTS TO GROW HIS CHURCH.

"...<u>I will build my church</u>; and all the powers of hell shall not prevail against it." (Matthew 16:18, The Living Bible)

- The Sower & the Seed Matt. 13:1-23
- The Fig Tree Luke 13:6-9
- The Yeast Matt. 13:33
- Parable of Great Banquet Luke 14:15-24

"Then the master told his servant, 'Go out to the roads and country lanes and compel them to come in, so that my house will be full." (Luke 14:23, NIV)

4. BECAUSE GROWTH IS A NATURAL OUTCOME OF HEALTH.

"...Under Christ's control the whole body is <u>nourished</u> and...<u>it grows as God wants it to</u> <u>grow</u>." (Colossians 2:19, GNB)

"So the churches grew strong in the <u>faith</u>, as well as growing daily in <u>numbers</u>." (Acts 16:5, NJB)

Example: The church at Jerusalem

"...about 120 believers were together in one place..." (Acts 1:15, NLT)

"Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church that day—about 3,000 in all." (Acts 2:41, NLT)

"...And each day the Lord added to their fellowship..." (Acts 2:47, NLT)

"But many of the people who heard their message believed it, so the number of men who believed now totaled about 5,000." (Acts 4:4, NLT)

"Yet more and more people believed and were brought to the Lord..." (Acts 5:14, NLT)

"the believers rapidly multiplied..." (Acts 6:1, NLT)

"...My friend, you can see how many tens of thousands of our people have become followers!" (Acts 21:20, CEV)

EXCUSES FOR NOT GROWING

- "God isn't interested in numbers."
- "Our church wants quality, not quantity."
- "Large churches are impersonal!"

5. BECAUSE **ETERNITY** RESTS ON IT.

"And the Good News about the Kingdom will be preached throughout the whole world, so that all nations will hear it; and then the end will come." (Matthew 24:14, NLT)

WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP MY CHURCH GROW?

- 1. **COMMIT** TO A "GUEST FIRST" MINDSET.
- 2. **SERVE** IN A WEEKLY MINISTRY.
- 3. PRAY FOR & INVITE PEOPLE WHO NEED A CHURCH HOME REGULARLY.
- 4. TAKE **HOME** CLASS AND BECOME A HOME RUN HERO!