"Revangelized" – Getting Back... Summer Series 2025 – The Mission Sermon Notes - BK September 28, 2025

Revangelized... Getting back to the roots of our faith.

There are several areas of the Christian Walk that are important for our spiritual health and vitality.

That is why the illustration of tree roots is so vivid for us. Roots are everything to the vitality of the tree...

I love what we read in Colossians 2 -

Colossians 2:6-7 (NLT)

⁶ And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him. ⁷ Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.

With all of that in mind, we went on a journey this Summer, to cover some of the key areas we must have a firm grasp on, for our own roots to be healthy...

What we covered -

God's Sovereignty
Sovereignty is the right to rule and make the rules.

God IS (completely) sovereign, AND He chooses to exercise His sovereign control as HE chooses.

God's Word

The Bible is our primary source of HEARING the Lord, because it is OUR PRIMARY SOURCE OF KNOWING HIM!

The Purpose of the Church

"Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever."

"Ways to Glorify God Daily" card...

Love God and Seek Him First

"Love the Lord your God..."

Matthew 22:37, ("Seek" in Mt. 6:33)

Worship Him

"Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name..."
Psalm 96:7-9

Love Others Authentically

"...love one another: just as I have loved you..."
John 13:34-35

Live with Gratitude

"...give thanks in all circumstances..."

1 Thess. 5:18

Live in Obedience

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments."
John 14:15

Serve with Humility

"...serves Me, he must follow Me... "
John 12:26

Trust God in Trials

"Count it all joy... when you meet trials..."

James 1:2

Work with Integrity

"...do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus..."
Colossians 3:17

Share His Good News

"...that the sharing of your faith may become effective..."
Philemon 1:6

Be United in His Church

"...eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit..." Ephesians 4:1-6

Ordinances (Kyndel)

They point us to Jesus and our great need for Him. They remind us of our need to rely on Him daily

The Bible and Money

False teachings on money in our church today, Prosperity and Poverty...

It is the love of money that is "...the root of all evil."

- There is no one we trust in more than the Lord
- We are grateful for what He provides and faithful to be follow God's instruction in what we are to do.

Serving (Tom)

Eph. 2:8-10 – His workmanship – for good works...

Sin & Repentance

Sin deceives, separates and destroys

Repentance restores, and brings us into right relationship with God

Repenting right away, all the way and with a grateful heart.

Mercy and Grace

Mercy - Not getting what we do deserve

Grace – Getting what we do not deserve

THIS is the most amazing part of the good news of Jesus!

The Trinity - Father, Son, Holy Spirit

- All three are God
- All have a place and purpose
- ALL are listed in the Bible as God (we have a flyer on that one too)
- GOD is ALL for us... SO Grateful for that... He has given us all we need.

Prayer and Worship (Tom)

Last week -

- Prayer should be our first response and not our last resort
- Worshipping our God with our all solo and together
 an atmosphere that shifts
- Prayer and praise is the "huddle" on a football field But then we are called into action...

- Love that!

ALL of this leads to...

- Revived people who cannot help but share the Good News of Jesus... as Tom said last week...

I think the more clearly, we see what God's plan IS the more trust we have in Him and how He has made us...

That is what leads us to today!...

All of THIS leads us to be a people of MISSION!

No, I do not have a clever play on words...

I do not have a 7-point sermon that has points that start with each letter in MISSION...

What I have is an invitation to see God use you like you have never seen Him use you –

- To love people
- To engage people
- To see the hearts of people around you seek the Father!

THE MISSION -

Matthew 28:19-20a

"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 all that I have commanded you." Some call this "Missions" – and it is not wrong to use that term of course – but I feel like it misses something.

We see "missions" as something that we travel to far away, into a remote third-word country... and it DOES include that... but there is MORE.

Some see missions as only "Evangelism."

- THAT can be scary for some
- How many of you love to meet people and start a conversation about Jesus?
 - O Not easy... few find joy in that!
 - o It can be downright scary!!

WHY can it be scary?

- o I don't know what to say!
- o I am not a good debater
- O What if I get something wrong?!

Early on in my Christian Walk, I was "equipped to share the Gospel."

- While I appreciate the learning, there was something missing.
 - I was trained to "tell" but I was not trained to find out <u>where they</u> were at.
 - The questions in the script were to lead to the next thing I had to say... not to look them in the eye and showed that I cared.

We often we see the "mission" of evangelism to TELL people what they need to hear and to *get them to buy in*.

That may work in some places, and with some people, but *in today's day and age...* not so much.

What if we have been looking at this the wrong way?

What if it has more to do with connecting with people, than it does with convincing people?

What if it starts with questions...

QUESTIONS...

- Do you ask very many questions? Why?
- Are you a life-long learner?
- Do you ask the question with the answer already in mind?
- Do you ask questions, so they will ask you... so that you can talk?
- What do questions do for you?
 - They help you understand
 - They fill in holes you didn't know you had
 - They help you know what is important in the conversation... not "scratching where it doesn't itch, or end up impertinent to the person or situation."

I am finally learning the importance of questions, over the last few years...

- Not to direct the conversation, but to understand.
- The GOAL of communication is to UNDERSTAND!
- If you do not know the answers, that is OK! Learn together!

For us to be effective in our mission as believers in Jesus and to be bright lights in a dark world, we need to know where to shine the light... We must seek the Lord and ask questions!

Have you ever thought about how many questions Jesus asked in the Gospels?

I think Jesus asked questions, <u>not</u> because He did not know the answer, but <u>to draw the answer out of them...</u>

Proverbs 20:5 (CSB)
Counsel in a person's heart is deep water;
but a person of understanding draws it out.

How much more effective would our message be, if the people we talked with felt like we cared.

How do we <u>show care</u>? We ask questions.

Then you know at least what you are dealing with.

I am the first to admit, this is an area I am still very much growing in.

Did you know there are over 300 questions listed in the Gospels that Jesus asked?

 While there are some that are repeated in the first three Gospels – this points to the IMPORTANCE of questions...

Jesus asked questions of all the people that were around Him in his ministry on earth. He asked questions of...

- His disciples
- The religious leaders
- Those He encountered all along the way

Did Jesus ask questions because He did not know?

Did Jesus ask these questions to try to manipulate the conversation?

I read a great <u>article</u> that listed the 305 questions Jesus asks in the Gospels –

The author highlights that -

- Jesus asked curiosity questions

The "how" and "why" questions

"How can you say to your brother..." Matt. 7:4

"How can Satan drive out Satan?" Mark 3:23

"Why do you call me good?" Mark 10:18

"Why are you troubled..." Luke 24:38a

- Curiosity questions that Jesus often used to expose things...
- Jesus asked open-ended questions

"Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes?" Matt. 6:25 "If you love those who love you, What credit is that to you?" Luke 6:32 "Why are you trying to kill me?" John 7:19

- Open-ended questions were used to help them to engage and to think through what they believed and why...

The author also pointed out that <u>Jesus asked</u> <u>questions that challenge...</u>

- "How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the only God?" John 5:44
- "Will you really lay down your life for me?" John 13:38

But <u>Jesus never asked "when" questions</u>...

"Maybe 'when' you live with an eternal framework as Jesus did, the 'when' questions are not as important."

I think I would add another category...

Jesus asked obvious questions...

- "What do you want me to do for you?" Mark 10:51
- "Do you want to be healed?" John 5:b

To us, the answer is <u>obvious</u>... but <u>what was Jesus really</u> <u>getting at</u> here?

- Do you really want to be healed?
- Your healing will change everything...

Ask more questions...

Make a list of questions to ask the one you want to engage with.

Ask to learn – not just to direct the conversation.

FIRST start with you... Asking your own questions... things that YOU want answers to.

Work through them!
Ask other around you and seek together!
Get equipped... know WHY you believe!
Grow in your own relationship with Jesus... be curious, dig deeper use the tools around you – ASK for help, we are here for you!

THIS is what will make us most fruitful in the mission of sharing the Good News of JC!

MISSION -

WHAT – Engage your world with the Good News of Jesus

WHERE – Everywhere you go

WHO – Honestly, EVERYONE needs Jesus!

WHY – People need the hope that is only found in Jesus – they will be forever separated from God if they do not trust Jesus as their Savior

HOW – Start with PRAYER... Continue with QUESTIONS... PRESS ON... till Jesus returns!

Revangelized... Getting to the ROOTS...

We go through all the other "roots," to help reinforce the trunk, and bring up water and nutrients to the rest of the tree.

The trunk is the mission...

This trunk is where the branches sprout from.

The branches are where the fruit is born.

NEXT WEEK –

We will get back into John ... John 15 in fact.

We will be getting into the whole branches and fruit...

For today, I think it is good to ask ourselves...

- How good am I at asking questions?
- How well do my questions get to the heart of the matter?
- O What motivates us to ask in the first place?
 I pray we will all journey in this way, knowing God unite us all along the way...