# S T A T E OF THE CHURCH

State of the Church – May 28, 2017 Pastor Shannon Chapman

Philippians 3:12-14, Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I <u>press on</u> to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I <u>press on</u> toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

#### Past, Present and Future Faith

- Our faith is anchored in the past
- Our faith should be alive in the present
- Our faith must be looking to the future

# The State of the Church sermon is a challenge for us to <u>assess</u> where we are currently as a church and look to the future.

Haggai 1:5-7, Now, therefore, thus says the Lord of hosts: <u>Consider your ways</u>. You have sown much, and harvested little. You eat, but you never have enough; you drink, but you never have your fill. You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm. And he who earns wages does so to put them into a bag with holes. Thus says the Lord of hosts: <u>Consider your ways</u>.

## The church must constantly assess 5 key areas:

- 1. Evangelism Are we telling the good news?
- 2. <u>Discipleship</u> *Are we teaching others to be more like Christ?*

- 3. <u>Outreach</u> *Are we serving the community and one another?*
- 4. Community Are we living in love and unity?
- 5. Worship Are we focused on God's worth corporately?

Each local church has a unique approach to what they feel is best to accomplish these 5 areas of ministry.

#### When a church walks together they are unstoppable!

#### A Call to Our Church

Ephesians 5:14-17, This is why it is said: "Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.

### Wake up!

- We must constantly be thinking about <u>lost people</u>.
- We must learn to balance conservative and aggressive thinking.
- We must be willing to do our part to <u>resource</u> the ministries.

# Live Wisely

- Live with purposeful intention.
- Be willing to pray New prayers.

#### State of the church...

We are chosen and equipped by God to bring His kingdom here to earth and as we walk out into the world we carry the good news in our hearts and lives.

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OUTPOURING, A NIGHT SEEKING THE HOLY SPIRIT JUNE 7, 2017 6:30 PM - MAIN AUDITORIUM