Reflecting on Myth #2: "The key to discovering a good church is finding one that makes you comfortable." Sunday, July 25, 2021

Introduction: This week, we debunk a second common myth about the church: *The key to discovering a good church is finding one that makes you comfortable.* We challenge this idea from a couple of perspectives.

- First, we look at a key purpose of the church, which to make us holy or Christ-like. We observe that this process is far from comfortable.
- We also see Paul's warning to Timothy that the time will come when supposed Christians will gather teacher around that will tell them what they want to hear (i.e., make them comfortable).

Our study concludes with a closer examination of two of our core values: multigenerational ministry and multicultural focus. While both of these concepts lead us to be less comfortable in our church gatherings, we believe that these pursuits are good things that God intends for His people.

Conversation Starters:

1. Our second myth is, "The key to discovering a good church is finding one that makes you comfortable." What parts of this myth are true? What parts of this myth are false?

2. Ephesians 2:19-22 tells us that members of the church are joined together to form a "holy temple." What does it look like for a church to be holy?

3. Describe the process whereby God uses the church to help bring about our holiness and Christlikeness. (See Eph. 5:25-27; Gal. 6:1-2; Titus 2:1-5.) As you discuss this, think carefully about whether it is a "comfortable" process.

4. 2 Timothy 4:2-4 talks about a time when people will not like the sound doctrine of the Bible. As a result, they will gather teachers around them that will tell them what they want to hear. Have you ever seen this happen? What would it look like if this happened in our modern context?

5. Describe what is like to be part of a multigenerational church. What are the good things? What are the hard things? How is God using people from other generations to help grow you in Christlikeness?

Questions continue on next page.

6. As your pastor, Pastor Pete envisions a time when the children of the members of Alpha and Omega might begin to attend our church (because English is their heart language). What challenges might arise when this happens? What blessings do you foresee if this does indeed happen?