Reflecting on Essentials: Growing in Christ in the Gospel Part 4 | June 28, 2020

Introduction

This week's message sought to answer the questions, "Now that I'm a follower of Jesus, what should I do?" Our discussion today provided the final two (of eight) answers to that question:

- 1. Give to the Church (2 Cor 9:6-15; Isa 55:10-11)
- 2. Evangelize the Lost (Matt 28:16-20; John 13:35; Eph 4:11-12)

One of the goals of this series of messages has been to help us see the importance of the church to the spiritual growth of each believer. A person gives to the church out of a passion to see the mission of the church accomplished, in particular to see people come to the Lord and discipled. A person evangelizes the lost most effectively by inviting them to observe the community of faith, the very community that has equipped him to share the message.

Discussion Questions

1. What was the most important part of the message for you this week? What did God impress on your heart as an important exhortation or encouragement?

2. This message seeks to demonstrate that these two steps are closely related, though they seem very different on the surface. Explain how evangelizing the lost and giving to the church are closely related essentials for believers.

- 3. The following actions are based on the teaching of 2 Corinthians 9:6-15. Which of these comes most naturally to you? Which one is the most difficult?
 - Christians should give cheerfully to the Lord.
 - Christians should give sacrificially to the Lord.
 - Christians never give reluctantly.
 - Christians should never give out of compulsion (duty).
 - Christians should give out of a desire for the church to accomplish the Great Commission.
 - Christians should view their prosperity as a blessing from sent so that they might meet someone else's need.

4. What role does the church (as a corporate body) play in evangelizing the lost? (See John 13:35 for one answer)

- 5. To whom does the responsibility fall to accomplish the great commission?
 - a. To Pastors and Deacons
 - b. To the Life Group Leaders
 - c. To the Children in the church
 - d. To the members of the church
 - e. All of the above

What are the implications of the correct answer to this question? How are you living up to this expectation (Matt 28:16-20)?

6.	Have you ever shared your faith with someone? If yes, tell your group how it came about and what you said.