

Southside Baptist Church
Sunday Morning – 3-29-26
Palm Sunday
Growth, change, and challenges.

1. Introduction:

a. Two incredible promises from Jesus for His church.

- 1) He will build His church, and He will protect His church. Matthew 16:18.
- 2) Today we celebrate Palm Sunday!
 - a) Jesus is a few days away from laying down His life.
- 3) What does this mean?
- 4) From the Book of Acts, we are learning about the church that Jesus gave His life for.
- 5) We are seeing growth, change, and challenges in the early church.
 - a) As a local church today, we are seeing growth, change, and challenges.

2. The Church in Acts:

a. Growth:

- 1) From Pentecost forward you see many people coming to faith in Christ.

b. Change:

- 1) Experiencing growth meant things would change in the church.

c. Challenges:

- 1) The Apostles faced threats and were beaten because of their obedience to God.
- 2) There were many people coming to faith in Christ.
 - a) Some of these new believers did not live in Jerusalem.

d. For us here at Southside:

1) Growth:

- a) By God's grace we have seen growth spiritually and physically.

2) Change:

- a) With growth comes change and upkeep.

3) Challenges:

- a) With growth and change come challenges. How will you handle growth?

4) The Church has a two-fold challenge:

- a) Maintain the daily work and ministry of the church while seeking to meet these additional needs, in order to continue the work and ministry of the church.

3. The Leadership Team:

a. Pastors and Deacons:

- 1) Two important things to bring to the body.

b. Most pressing –

- 1) This equipment has reached the end of its lifespan.
- 2) A brief overview of what is planned.

c. Completing a feasibility study.

- 1) The leaders have sought to figure out next steps as it relates to handling growth.

d. The cost for these two projects.

- 1) First – the sound system cost is _____.

- a) Because of God's blessings and the practice of grace giving, we have _____.
- b) The balance of what is needed: _____.

- 2) Second – the feasibility study. Phase 1 of 3.

- a) The cost of Phase 1 is _____.

- b) This professional study will provide us with several important pieces of information.

c) This information will include existing building conditions, infrastructure systems, space utilization, and capacity and determine whether to pursue renovation of the existing campus or new construction.

3) Our first goal is to –

4. How did God work in the early church to meet the extra needs that arose?

a. Two things that stick out to me.

1) This was a church of young believers.

b. Unity – Acts 2:42, 44.

1) What is the root of unity?

a) This unity in the church started when they understood what had changed in them.

2) How do you maintain unity? Being willing to submit even when you disagree.

c. Stewardship.

1) When you come to know Jesus as Lord and Savior, it is not long before you will be confronted with the truth and change that stewardship brings.

a) When you trust Christ as Savior, you now belong to Him. I Cor. 6:19-20.

b) This is a battle with the flesh.

c) All that you are and all that you have has been provided by the Lord.

d. Transferring the ownership to God. A decision every believer faces.

1) Are you willing to recognize that everything you are and everything you have belongs to God?

a) Are you willing to live that way?

e. To meet the need, they sold possessions. Acts 2:45

1) They sold possessions and goods.

2) The first step is to transfer the ownership of all that you are and have to the Lord.

3) The next step – simply ask the Lord for direction in this and then be obedient.

5. Today's Take Away:

a. Let's take this time to celebrate all that God is doing in and through His church today.