

WELCOME TO

The Great Commission

Seminar # 4

Why The Church?

Objective for this hour

- To give an overview of the Church's role
- To plant a vision

The Redemption of Mankind

Two entities are involved in this work:

- Jesus Christ (the Redeemer) and
- The Church, (the redeemed) the body of Christ

A. Jesus Christ:

Came from the bosom of the Father to save sinners.

John 1: 14, And the word was made flesh and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

18 No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

His work was Specific

Heb. 10: 4-10

4 For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats could take away sins. **5** Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me: **6** In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure.

7 Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.

8 Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither had pleasure therein; which were offered by the law;

9 Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second.

10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all

His work was singular, His Father's will

John 6: 38 For I came down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him that sent me **39** And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.

His work was efficient, He would finish it

John 4: 34 Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work

“I have finished the work you gave me to do.”

John 17: 4,5

Qualifying Him to become the sacrifice.

Hebrews 5: 8,9

Transition

John 17: 11

“I am no longer in the world...but these are.”

Jesus began to do and teach,

Acts 1: 1

The Disciples received power to continue.

Acts 1: 8 “But ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost has come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

We are the body of Christ, the vessel in which he continues to do his work.

B. The Church

He dwells in us and walks in us. **2 Cor. 6: 16**

Jesus' work is carried on and multiplied through His body the Church. **John 14: 12**

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.”

As He is, so are we in this world **1John 4: 17**

Ephesians 2: 10 typified by **Genesis 2: 21-23**

- **Adam's Commission, "Multiply and fill the earth."**
- **Unable to do it alone. Eve, the instrument.**
- **Created in Adam for a specific foreordained purpose.**
- **Adam represents Christ, Eve, the Church, his bride.**

The commission to multiply and fill the earth with the redemptive message of the Gospel is the good work in which God has fore ordained that we should walk.

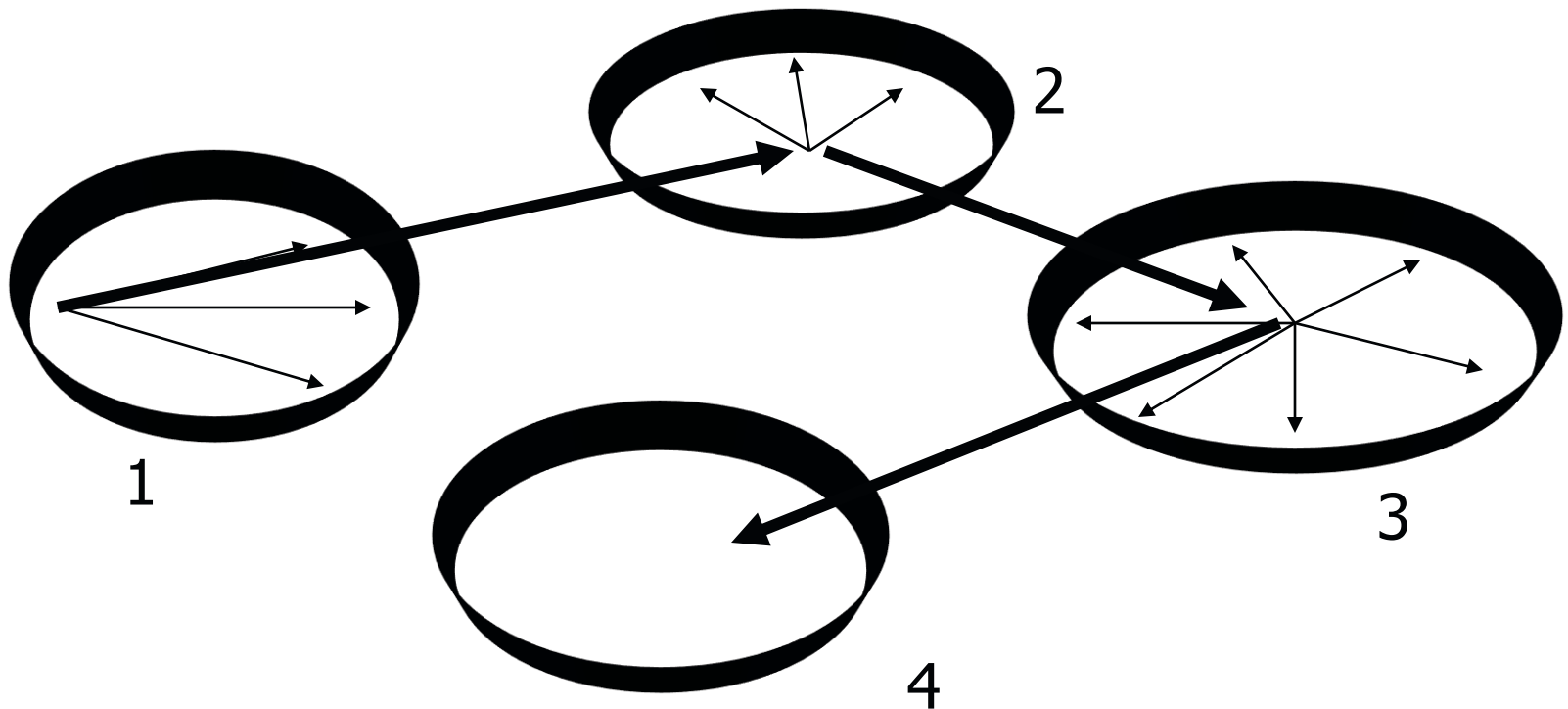
God's Commission to the Church is very specific

To every creature. Local level

Mark 16:15

To all nations. The world-wide level

Matthew 28:18-20



The Specific conclusion

“This Gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness to all nations; and then shall the end come.”

Mat. 24: 14

Redeemed from every nation will be gathered. **Rev. 5: 9**

Conformed to the image of Christ. **Rom. 8: 29; 1 John 3: 1,2**

This will fulfill Gen. 1:26. What was begun in Adam will be completed in Christ. Redeemed man will be conformed to the image of the Lord Jesus, and will live eternally without potential of sin or death. God's temporal plan will be finished.

Then God's eternal purpose. The New Jerusalem, the habitation of God, the humanity through which the Spirit of God will reveal himself and demonstrate his will for eternity.

Rev. 21: 1-5

1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

2 And I John saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

5 And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new.

**Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and
a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.**

2 Peter 3: 13



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And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

And he that sat upon the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new.”

**Isaiah 9: 6, 7 Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given:
And the government shall be upon his shoulder:
And his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God,
The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.
Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon
the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it
with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever.**



After 2000 years of Church history

The Unfinished Task

Mission: an historical perspective

The Commission is:

To Make Disciples

Mat. 28: 19

as opposed to “Planting Churches”

It’s completion is requisite to “The End”

Mat. 24: 14

So how did it begin, and how is it progressing?

Missions in the Early Church

- The Church becomes a body Acts 2
- Missions begins immediately Acts 3
- Lines firmly drawn between life and religion Acts 4
- Recognizable Spiritual authority established Acts 5, 6

Acts 2-7, A time of establishing the Church. The setting is Jerusalem. Eight thousand Jews are saved and church government is being established.

Acts 8-10, Judea and Samaria, and the first Gentiles.

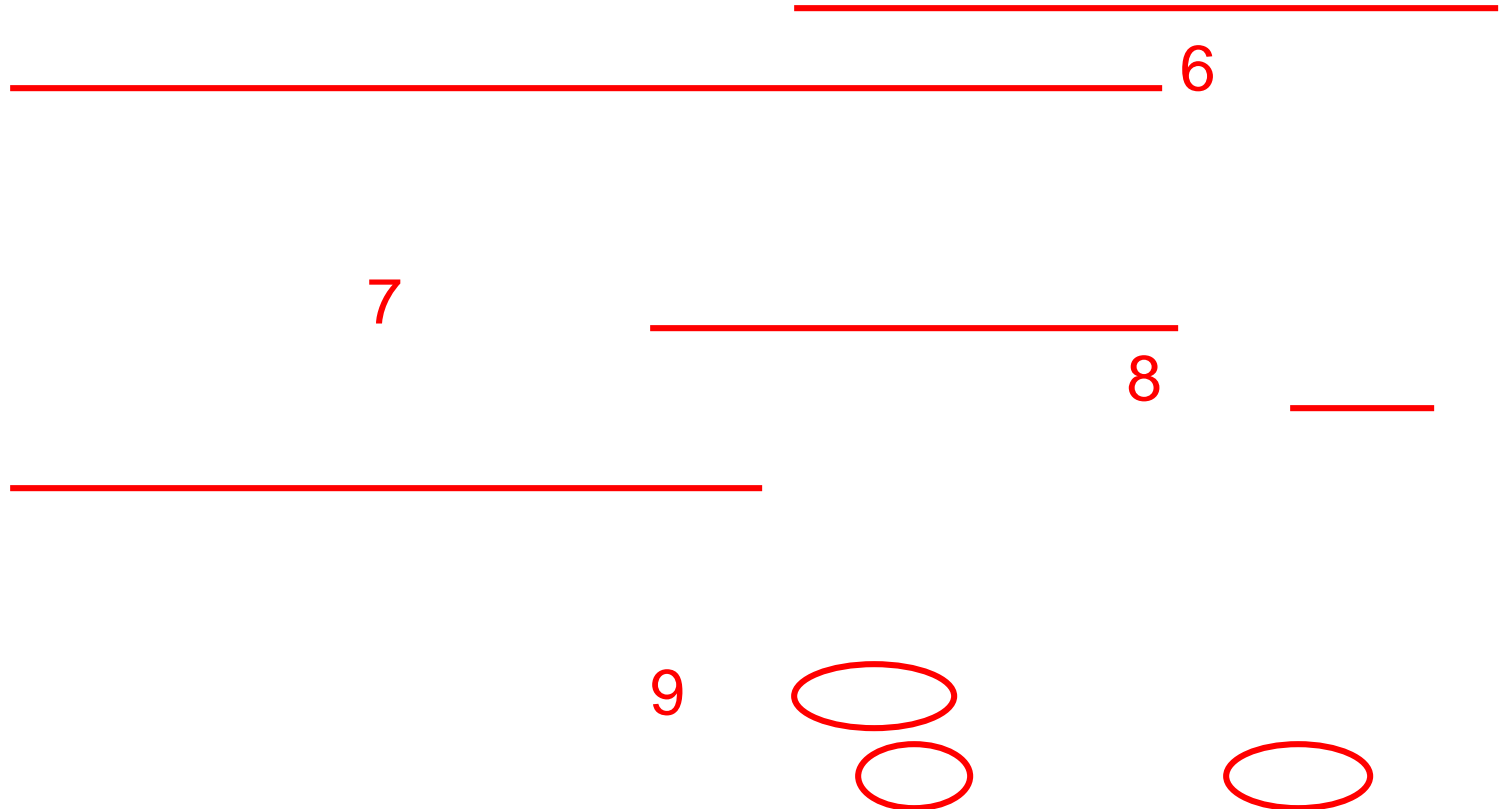
Acts 11-20, Uttermost parts. Asia is covered, and the final chapters of Acts see the Gospel introduced into Europe.

Rom. 15: 19



1Thes. 1: 5-8

1 Thes. 1: 5



Persecution accompanied the progress of the Gospel

Beginning in Acts 12, persecutors determined to stop the spread of the Gospel. The Romans became the chief perpetrators until about 325 A.D. when Constantine professed to believe, and "Christianity" became the "religion" of choice.

Roman Catholicism (an oxymoron) spread its false gospel around the world by incorporating the pagan beliefs of those they wished to annex, poisoning the well for those who came preaching Truth. Even today Catholicism in much of the world presents the greatest barrier to the spreading of the Gospel.

In 1511 the Reformation began, creating Protestantism."

Missions Following the Reformation

The Eighteenth Century (1700s)

The Moravians, harshly persecuted by the Catholic inquisition, sent their first missionary team overseas in 1732. To America in 1735.

William Carey went from England to Bengal, India in 1794 with the Baptist Missionary Society.

In that century missionaries established the Gospel in South Africa, Northern Europe, Scandinavia the British Isles and the American colonies.

The Nineteenth Century (1800s)

The inland missions thrust of the nineteenth century pushed the Gospel deep into the continents of Africa, Asia and the Americas.



The Twentieth Century (1900s)

Tribal missions was a major thrust during the 1900s as such groups as New Tribes Mission, RBMU, Wycliffe Bible Translators and other lesser-known mission organizations concentrated their efforts on unreached tribal groups.

Today, with the opening of Eastern Europe in 1989, most of the world is open to those with commitment, courage and the call of God to go.

Time is certainly running out, but there is still time to participate in the most vital of all tasks.

Isn't the job nearly finished? Hasn't every nation received the Gospel by now?

Define "Nation." Ethnos (Gr.)

It means "peoples" or Ethnic Groups.

For example, the U.N. classifies Nigeria as a single nation. However, it contains over 450 tribes (ethno-linguistic groups) which constitute biblical nations. Thus, one country comprises 450 ethnos.

Define "unreached" people group.

A nation, as described above, with no living testimony of the Lord Jesus.

How many “nations” are still “unreached?”

In 1980, it was estimated that there were about 17,500 known to be unreached.

By 1991, this number had been reduced to about 12,500.

In 2004 it was estimated that there were now about 3,000

**We will know when the job is done because
--Then shall the end come--**

Where are most of these unreached peoples?



This has been named the “10-40 window.” It is a resistant belt spanning the Eurasian continent, and comprising Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist and Chinese cultures.

Why are they still unreached?

- **They are geographically isolated**
- **Culturally resistant**
- **Religiously hermetic**
- **Environmentally hostile**
- **Governmentally antagonistic**

In a word,

Difficulty

Present Efforts

Manpower.

Most workers sent from the U.S. go to reached nations, few to the unreached.

In the 1980s, when the U.S. population was 240,000,000, there was 1 full-time worker for every 240 Americans. Elsewhere 1 for every 300,000.

Finances.

Most Evangelical dollars are spent on maintaining properties and established works. Of every \$100, approximately 40 cents goes to reaching unreached nations.

Prayer

There are no statistics on the prayer efforts of the saints. Perhaps we could supply our own by asking ourselves these four questions:

- 1. How much of my prayer time is devoted to unreached nations?
- 2. Am I typical of the average praying Christian?
- 3. Do I pray regularly according to Luke 10: 2?
- 4. Do I see Psalm 2: 8 as a mandate for me as a member of Christ's body?

The Strategy:

a comparison between the early church and
the modern church

They had no silver or gold.
Acts 3:1-3

We have tremendous
financial resources, and
depend heavily upon them.

They had no technology in
the area of communication
or transportation.

We have technology; cars,
airplanes, computers, radio,
television, printing presses,
etc.

They had power

We tend to substitute human
reasoning, programs,
education, psychology, etc.

Four strategically important points

The Right Message;

the Lordship of Christ and the cross. **Rom. 10:9,10**

The Right Authority;

The Word of God; Apostolic, local eldership; in the name of Jesus Christ. (Degrees, education level and academic qualifications were not mentioned.)

The Right Method;

Multiplication of disciples and churches.

The Right Commitment;

Included every member and all that they possessed.

In the early church the responsibility for world evangelization belonged to every member. God's plan is that every member have an equal commitment to fulfilling Christ's commission.

Whether as missionaries
or working with their hands to support the work
or taking the responsibility of intercession
they were all witnesses and disciple-makers

This vision will bring new life to the local church.

Hour 3

Characteristics of Leadership

Great Commission Seminar

Characteristics of Leadership

This session addresses the possibility of the majority being challenged by the few, rather than the “energized” minority being gradually suppressed and ultimately silenced by the “passive” majority.

Leadership Defined

Leadership is the influence one person has on another or others that results in motivation and / or direction.

Leadership may be supplied by those not in authority

eg. Jethro, Moses' father-in-law **Exodus 18: 17-24**

David, "I will go and fight with this Philistine."....

And Saul said, "Go, and the Lord be with thee."

I Sam. 17: 32-37;

David went where Saul sent him.

I Sam. 18: 5-7;

"When Saul was king,... thou wast he that led out and brought in Israel."

2 Sam. 5: 2

It is important to make the distinction between leadership and authority

Quality of Leadership

The World's View of Leadership: is the manipulation of the thinking of those who are expected to follow; causing people to “buy” the leader's plan; striving for and winning recognition and a following.

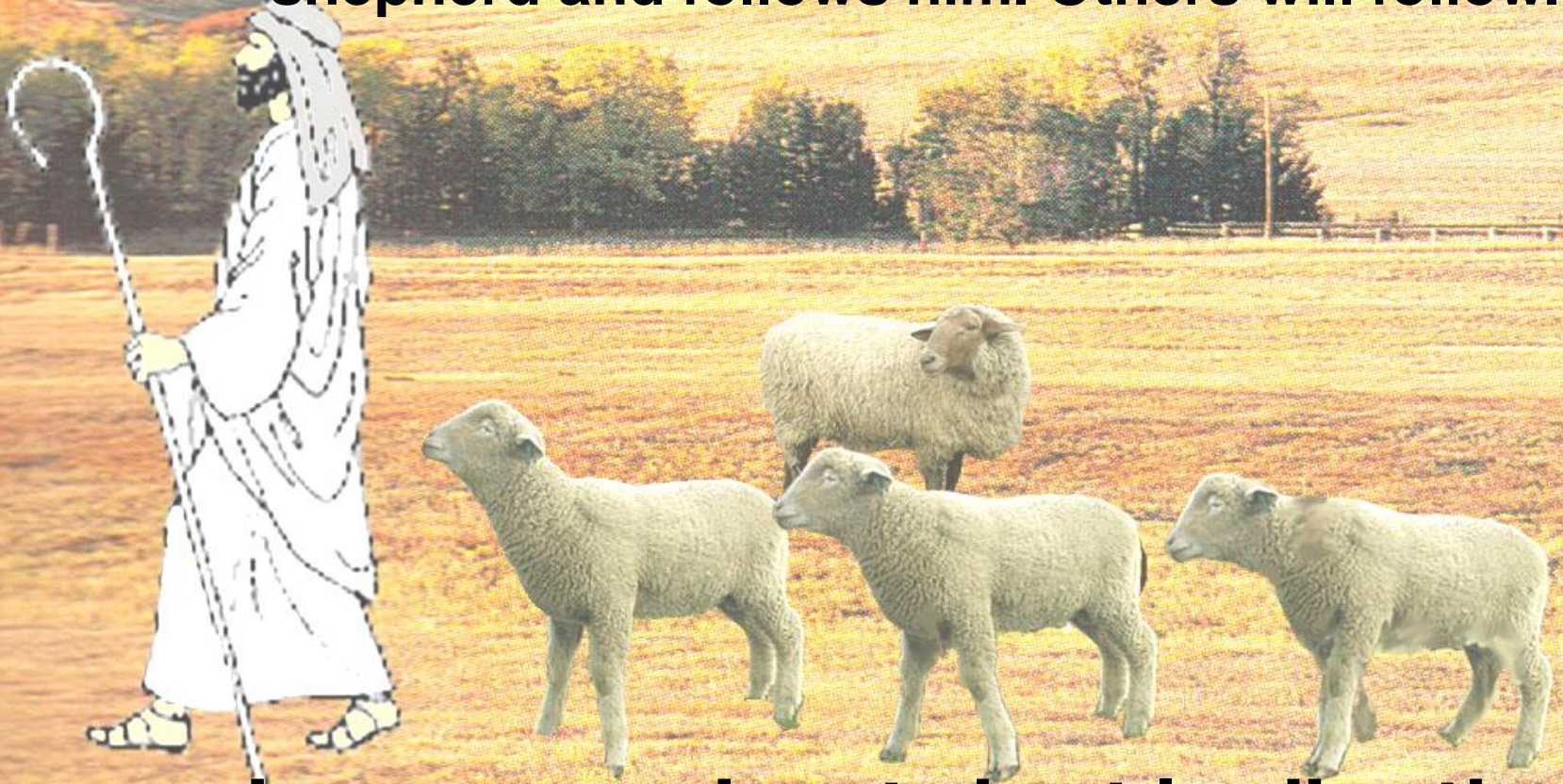
Spiritual Leadership: is responsible, dedicated discipleship; exemplified in faithfulness, lifestyle, attitudes and zeal.

I Cor. 11:1

I Thes. 1:5,6

II Tim. 3:10

The lead sheep simply keeps his gaze upon the shepherd and follows him. Others will follow.



His conscious concern is not about leading the sheep, but about following the shepherd.

Colossians 1: 16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven and that are in earth...all things were created by him and for him 17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. 18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

“Leadership” Implies **Action** and **Understanding**.

Ephesians 5: 15 See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, **16** redeeming the time, because the days are evil. **17** Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is.

Action = Walking circumspectly

Understanding = understanding what the will of the Lord is.

Three Absolute Requirements

1. **Prayer:** knowing how, and what for

I John 5: 14 And this is the confidence that we have in him, that if we ask anything according to his will, he heareth us: **15** and if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

Mark 11: 24 Therefore I say unto you, what things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

2. **The Word of God:** able to see God's plan

Psalms 119:105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path

3. A Will to Obey:

Assured discernment of God's Truth

John 7:17 If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.

Sure-footed Pace setting

Proverbs 3:21 My son, let them not depart from thine eyes: keep sound wisdom and discretion: **22** so shall they be life unto thy soul, and grace to thy neck. **23** Then shalt thou walk in thy way safely, and thy foot shall not stumble.

4:12 When thou goest, thy steps shall not be straitened; and when thou runnest, thou shalt not stumble.

Two Healthy Fears

1. Fear of God

Proverbs 1: 7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction

2. Fear of stumbling the saints

Psalms 73:12 The ungodly prosper in this world...**13** I have cleansed my heart in vain...**14** all day long I have been plagued... **15** If I say, I will speak thus; behold, I should offend against the generation of thy children.
16 When I thought to know this, it was too painful for me.

Other Leadership requirements

1. Service:

Mark 10: 43 ...but whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister **44** and whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all. **45** For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Jesus voluntarily fed the multitude

Mark 8: 2 I have compassion on the multitude, because they have been with me three days, and have nothing to eat.

Rehoboam, on the other hand, served himself.

1 Kings 12:7 If thou wilt be a servant unto the people...and serve them...they will be thy servants forever. **8** But he forsook the counsel of the old men

2. Self-denial:

Luke 9:23 If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross daily, and follow me.

3. Vision: See God's plan and anticipate its completion.

Proverbs 29: 18 Where there is no vision, the people perish.

3. Direction: Example of Noah

Hebrews 11:7 By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

He was certain his direction was from God.

He was able to obey without precedent or encouragement.

His family stood with him against the society's trends.

4. Dependability

Timothy **Phil. 2: 22** “But ye know the proof of him, that, as a son with the father, he hath served with me in the gospel.”

Epaphroditus **Phil. 2: 30** “Because for the work of Christ, he was nigh unto death, not regarding his life, to supply your lack of service toward me.”

Example of Godly Leadership

Joshua:

Joshua 3: 11-17

He could hear God's voice, recognize it and act accordingly because:

He had learned to wait upon God.

Exodus 33: 11 The Lord spake unto Moses face to face...and he turned again into the camp; but his servant Joshua...departed not out of the tabernacle

He had learned to obey authority.

Exodus 17: 9 And Moses said unto Joshua, Choose us out men, and go out, fight with Amelek... **10** So Joshua did as Moses had said to him, and fought with Amelek.

He had learned to believe God's promises

Num. 14: 8 If the Lord delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us;... **9** Only rebel not against the Lord, neither fear ye the people of the land...the Lord is with us: fear them not.

As a Consequence,

He was able to hear and obey God's voice and, therefore, prove (demonstrate) the good, acceptable and perfect will of God. **Romans 12:2**

Spiritual authority resulted from his obedience: they feared Joshua as they had feared Moses. **Joshua 4:14**

Example of Flawed Leadership

Saul:

I Samuel 28: 6

He could not hear God's voice because

He had not learned to wait upon God.

I Samuel 13: 8 -14 Saul's impatience caused him to make an unauthorized sacrifice, which, among other offenses, cost him the kingdom.

He had not learned to obey authority.

I Samuel 15:10 Then came the word of the Lord to Samuel, saying, **11** It repenteth me that I have set up Saul to be king: for he is turned back from following me, and hath not performed my commandments.

His Character Flaws:

1 Samuel 15: 13 Saul said unto Samuel, I have performed the commandment of the Lord. **14** Samuel said, What meaneth then this bleating of the sheep...and lowing of the oxen...**15** Saul said,...the people spared the best of the sheep and of the oxen to sacrifice... **19** Wherefore didst thou not obey the voice of the Lord...but didst evil in the sight of the Lord? **20** And Saul said, I have obeyed the voice of the Lord...**21** But the people took of the spoil...to sacrifice.

Pride, rebellion, irresponsibility

He blamed others for his own errors, failures and disobedience.

As a Consequence

Loss of authority and respect

I Samuel 14: 44 Saul answered,..Thou shalt surely die, Jonathan. **45** And the people said, Shall Jonathan die, who hath wrought this great salvation in Israel? God forbid.

Loss of fellowship with God

I Samuel 28:15 Then said Samuel, Wherefore then dost thou ask of me, seeing the Lord is departed from thee, and is become thine enemy?

Loss of his kingdom

I Samuel 15:26 ...thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, and the Lord hath rejected thee from being king over Israel.

1 Samuel 15: 22 And Samuel said, Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. **23** For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king.

Hour 4

The Church

Great Commission Seminar

The Church

The Body of Christ, the fullness of him
that filleth all in all. **Ephesians 1: 21**

God's Instrument in the earth

“...created in Christ Jesus unto
good works that God has before
ordained that we should walk in
them.” **Ephesians 2: 10**

The World

The system imposed upon the earth by the god of this world

1 John 2: 15-17

2 Cor. 4: 4

Involves numerous political divisions

Rev. 11: 15

In Jesus' parables it is the field

Mat. 13: 38

The major Biblical divisions are:

- 1. Israel (The Jews)**
- 2. The Nations or Heathen (Gentiles)**
- 3. The Elect from every nation**

Matthew 13: 44 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which, when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.

The field is the world

Mat. 13: 38

The man is the Lord Jesus

Phil. 2: 6 - 8

The treasure is the elect

2 Cor. 5: 19

“The field is the world”

Matthew 13: 38

The treasure in the field

Matthew 13: 44

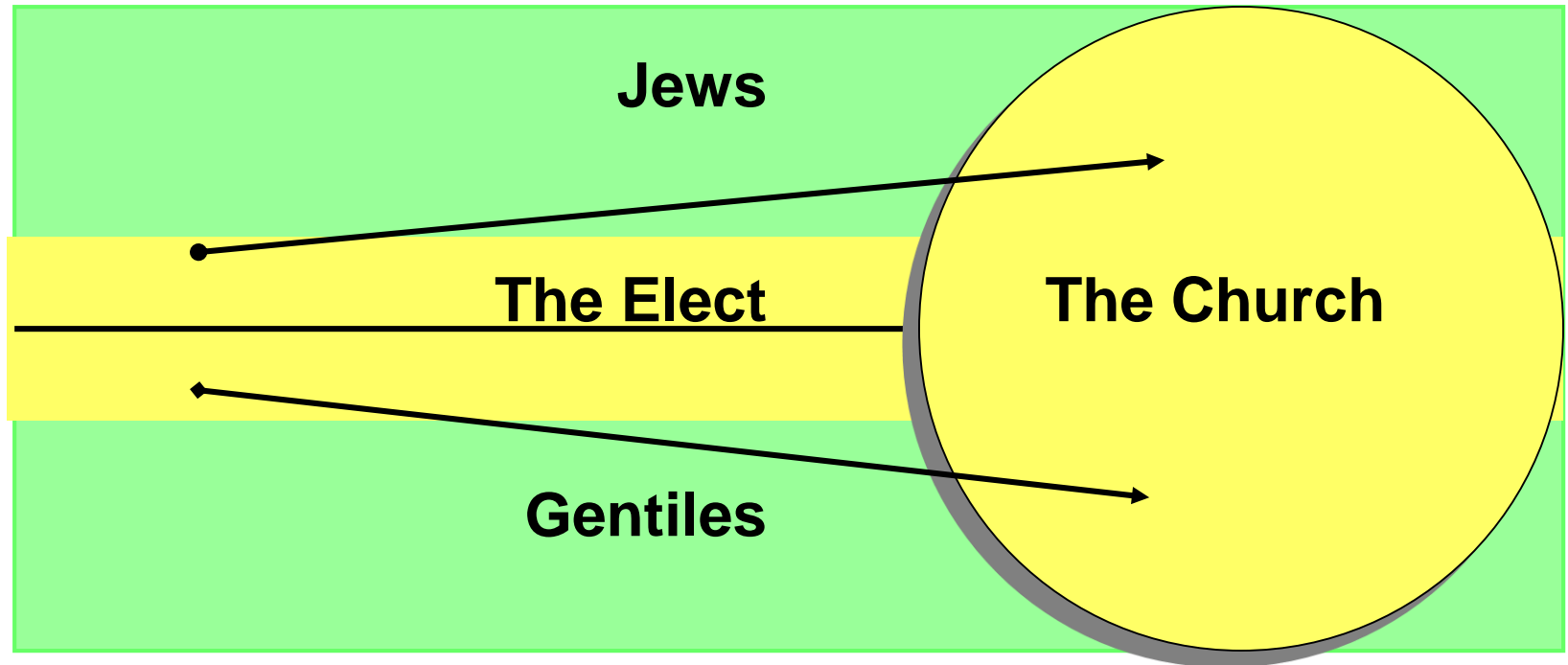
Jews

The Elect

Gentiles

The Church = Eklesia, (called out ones) **John 17:14-17**

The Church = Eklesia, (called out ones) **John 17: 14-17**
The elect from every nation (including Israel) are called
out of the world and into one body. **Colossians 1: 18**

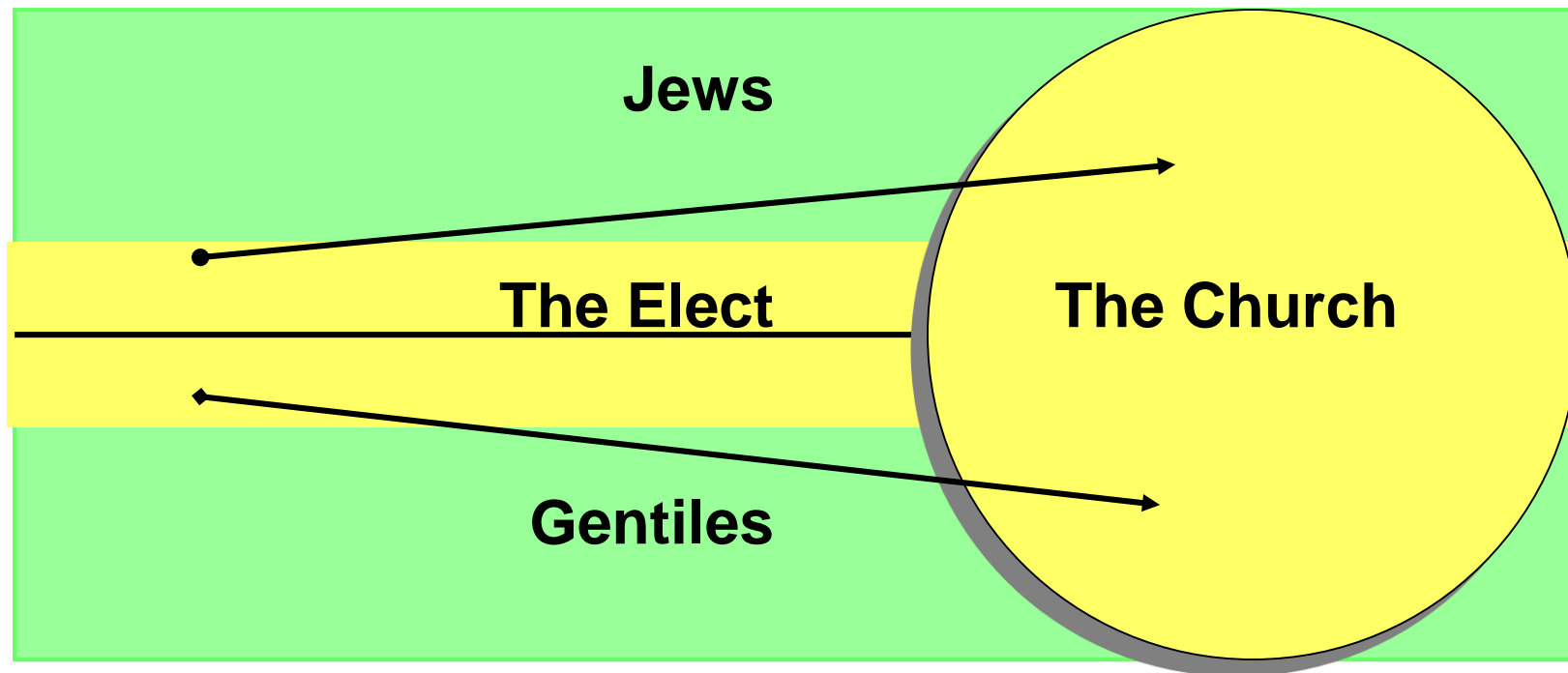


In the Church, God has made Jew and Gentile one
Ephesians 2:14,15

Under Christ, the Church has power and victory **Eph.1: 22, 23**

The Church is to manifest Christ's fulness **Eph. 1: 23**

Jesus is its head and its identity **1 Cor. 6: 19**



God has removed the middle wall of partition, and made them members of the same body. **Eph. 2: 16; 3: 6**

Eph.1: 22 [God] hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be head over all things to the church, **23** which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

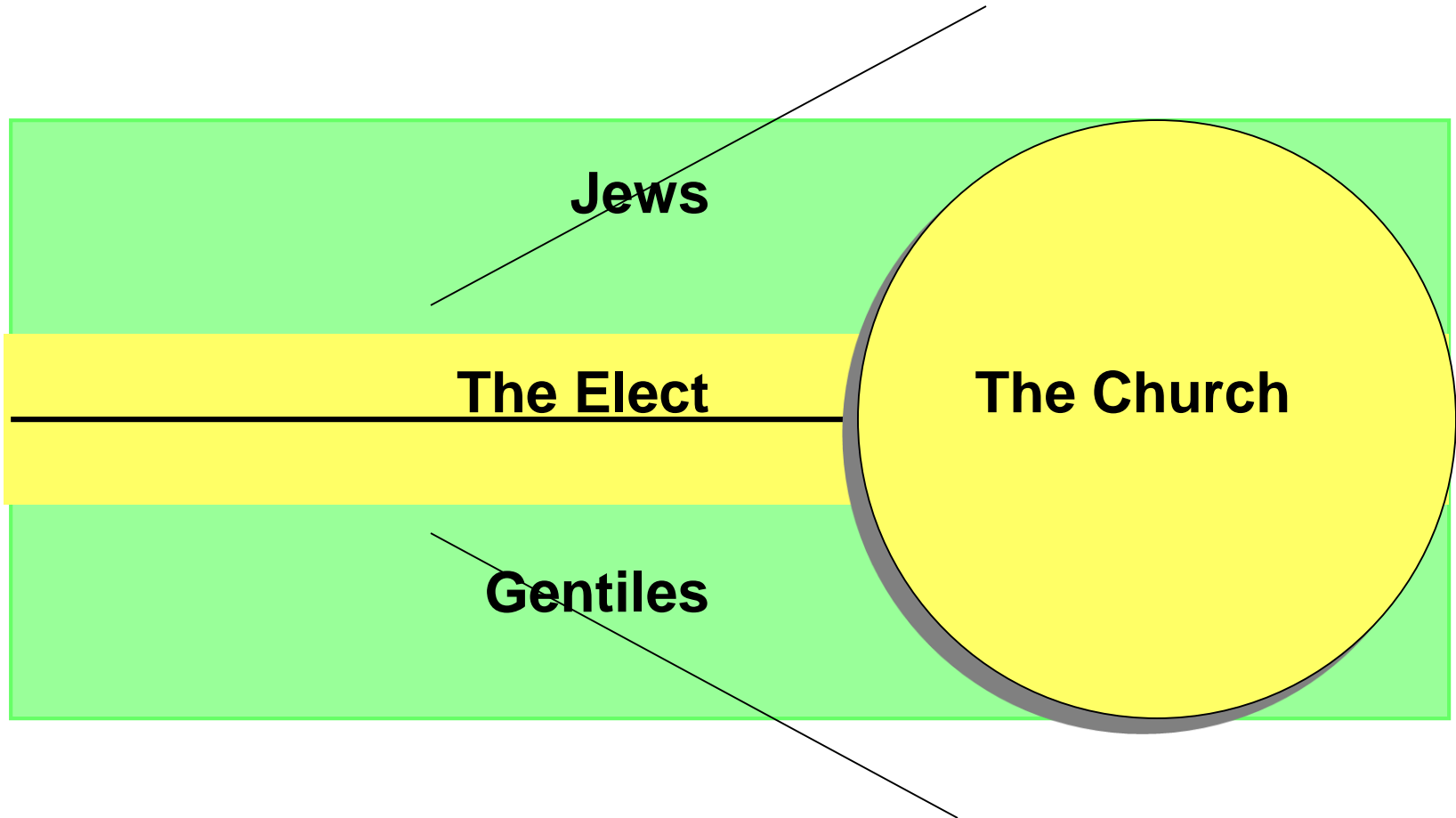
1 Cor. 6: 19 What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost, which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

Eph. 2: 15..to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace **16** and that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby

Eph. 3: 6 That the Gentiles should be fellow-heirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ through the gospel.

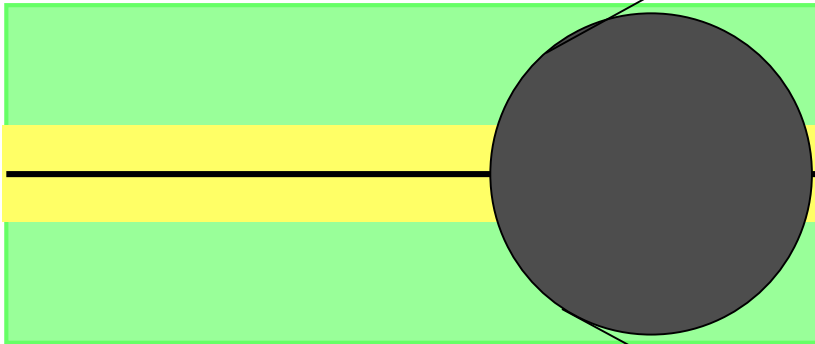
The Church is distinct from the world. The separation of the two should be observable.

2 Cor. 6: 14-18



The Status of Every Member

Every born-again believer is saved out of the world **Acts 2: 40** and is baptized by the Spirit into the Church **1 Cor. 12:13**



These are not options.

They are things to which God has committed every member of the body of Christ.

Also every member is:

Purchased

1 Cor. 6: 19, 20

Separated to God

Heb. 10:10

Equipped with Spiritual gifts

Rom. 12: 5, 6

Designed to function in a specific capacity **Eph. 4: 16**

Ordained to be priests

1 Peter 2:9

Is in full time ministry

2 Cor. 5: 15-18

Confusion, struggles and lukewarmness result from our failure to commit to that to which God has committed us.

Three Basic Categories of Commitment

Personnel to go

Intercessors

Providers

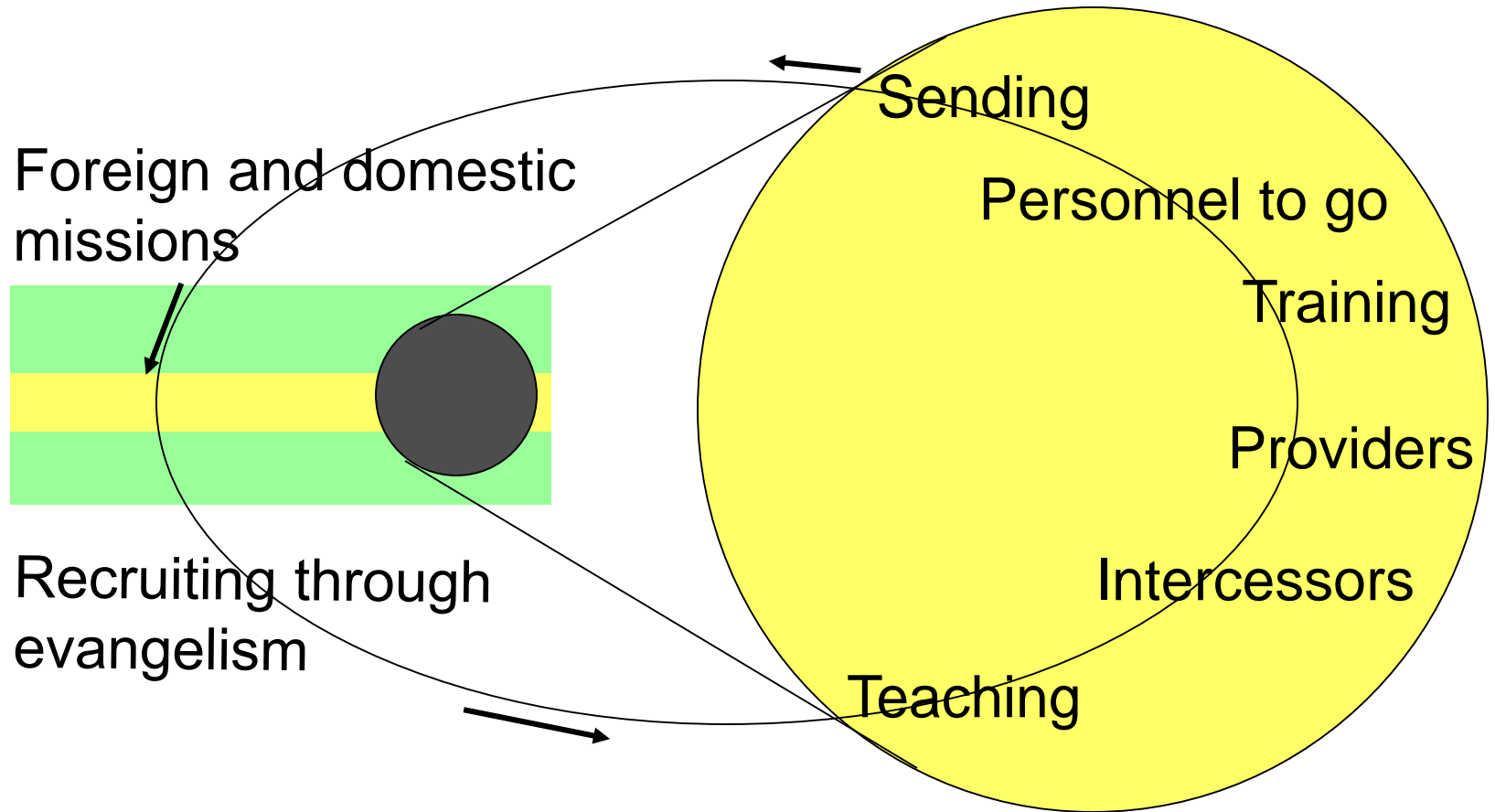
Four Responsibilities of the Local Church

Recruiting: Through evangelism Not done in the church; but the church goes to the world.

Teaching: This is the reason for the church meeting
Not to entertain, but to instruct.

Training: Training makes teaching practical. It puts legs on the information.

Sending: Having been taught and trained in the local assembly, there are workers to be sent.



Hour 5

The Role of the Local Assembly

Great Commission Seminar # 4

While Others Go,

Why Must Some Stay Home?

Acts 1: 8 “But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

The Role of the Local Church is:

To sustain the local testimony of Christ.

To advance the commission by

stimulating vision in all the members

by supplying manpower

and by providing materially.

Local Responsibilities

Establishing new believers

Col. 1:28

manpower is lost through neglect to disciple new believers

Preparing the saints for ministry

Eph. 4:11,12

making room for their ministry in the assembly¹ Cor. 14:26

Salting the community

Mat. 5:13-16

Producing stable leadership

for the church, the community, the business world and
the mission field.

1 Pet. 5:1-3

Advancing the Commission

Recruiting through evangelism.

Mark 16:15

(A basic, on-going activity)

As you go most important and effective.

House to house.

Acts 20:21

Public and private preaching

Don't be “results oriented” gardens don't produce instant fruit. Neither does good seed.

Disciple Making:

Teaching

man to man, group Bible studies, church meetings.

Training (we have Jesus' example)

taught doctrine Mat. 5: 1-12

demonstrated faith principles Luke 22: 35

rebuked error and attitudes Mark 14: 5, 6

showed them how (example)

gave assignments Mark 11: 2, 3; Luke 9: 1-6

Supplying Intercession:

Effectual prayer

individually

Eph. 6: 18

reveals ones attitude toward spiritual matters

collectively

Acts 12:5,12

prayer groups become effective through long-range consistency. Objectives are important.

pray as commanded

Psa. 2: 8; Luke 2: 10

Be consistent and persistent. Prayer is the air cover and firepower for those on the front lines. Without prayer cover, they are in danger.

Providing and cultivating providers:

Motivation for earning Eph. 4: 28

Biblical command to learn
earning skills Titus 3: 14

Those who stay home are support troops, recruiting, defining the vision, teaching or being taught, training or being trained, sending or going according to God's specific calling.

Fact: There are approximately 250,000,000 professing evangelicals in the world. It is probably safe to assume that one third of these are genuine, born-again believers—approximately **84,000,000**.

We understand from current statistics, that there are about **3,500** unreached people groups. Therefore, if every one thousand (**1000**) evangelical believers were to recruit, teach, train, send and provide for two (**2**) of their number, this would equal a sufficient number of missionaries to send forty-eight (**48**) to **every** unreached people group.

Hour 6

Scriptural Giving

“Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give, not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.”

2 Corinthians 9:7

A Responsibility of the Church

Giving to the support of:

Widows 1 Tim. 5: 16

Ministering Elders 1 Tim. 5: 17

Workers (Domestic and foreign) 1 Cor.9: 14

Needs of the saints 1 Cor. 16: 1, 2

The giving of money and other material offerings is a common subject in both old and new testaments.

The building of the tabernacle; the temple; temple worship; the nation's business. It is an important evidence of spiritual commitment.

“Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”

Mat. 6:19-21

Principle of the Tithe

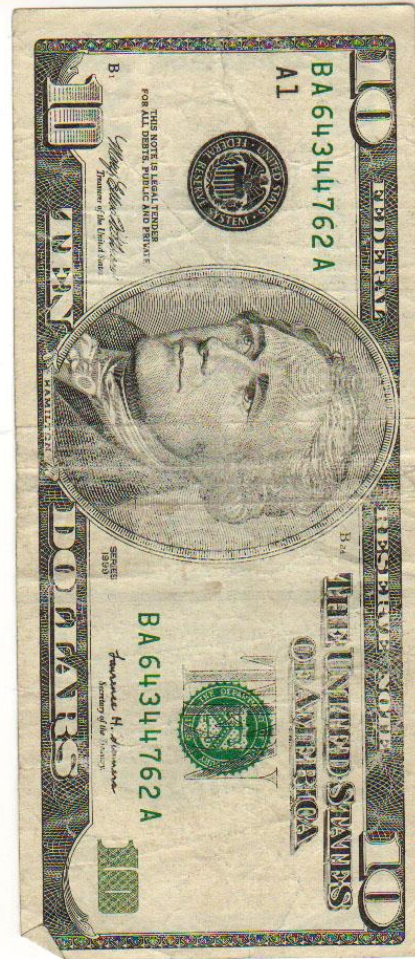
A tithe is always 10% — one tenth

A tithe of ten dollars
is one dollar.

A tithe of one hundred
dollars is ten dollars.

A tithe of one hundred
pounds of rice is ten
pounds of rice.

A tithe of ten soldiers
is one soldier



In Evidence Before the Law

First mention of tithe relates to Melchizedek priesthood.
Gen. 14: 7-20

Jacob vowed to give God a tenth. Gen.28: 20-22

Both of the preceding incidents involved personal fellowship, personal revelation, voluntary will (according to purpose of heart), and in neither case was related to covetousness.

Jacob's vow became the basis of law for Jacob's seed.

The Law of Tithe (for Israel)

Became the basis for Israel's support structure.

Everything was tithed, Exodus 22: 29-30

The tribes tithed to the Levites. Numbers 18: 21, 24

The Levites tithed to Aaron. Numbers 18: 28-30

Israel's spiritual condition reflected in their giving.

Revival under Hezekiah. 2 Chron. 31: 2-10

Low spiritual level Hag. 1: 5, 6; Mal. 3: 8-12

Recovery Neh. 10: 37-39

**New Testament giving is
based on Old Testament principles**

Principle of New Testament Giving

In the New Testament “tithe” changes to “as he purposeth in his heart,” 2 Cor. 9: 7

“Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity; for God loveth a cheerful giver.”

or “as God has prospered him.” 1 Cor. 16: 2

“Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.”

Caution,

because there is no tithe in the New Testament, some feel there is no need to give. On the other hand, there are those who have a “tithe mentality,” which becomes justification for keeping, not giving.

Need	Income	Tithe	Living	Offering
\$1000.	\$1000.	\$100.	\$900.	
\$1000.	\$2000.	\$200.	\$1800.	
\$1000.	\$2000.	\$200.	\$1000.	\$800

**This is your
treasure**

Note: In the first case, even to tithe means to sacrifice.

In the second case, increased income increased the need.

In the third case, total commitment to the Kingdom cause.

Specific New Testament instruction

Priestly (worker) support 1 Cor. 9: 1-14

Order of giving 2 Cor. 9: 6-14

God multiplies the seed sown 2 Cor. 9: 10

Eaten

Gone

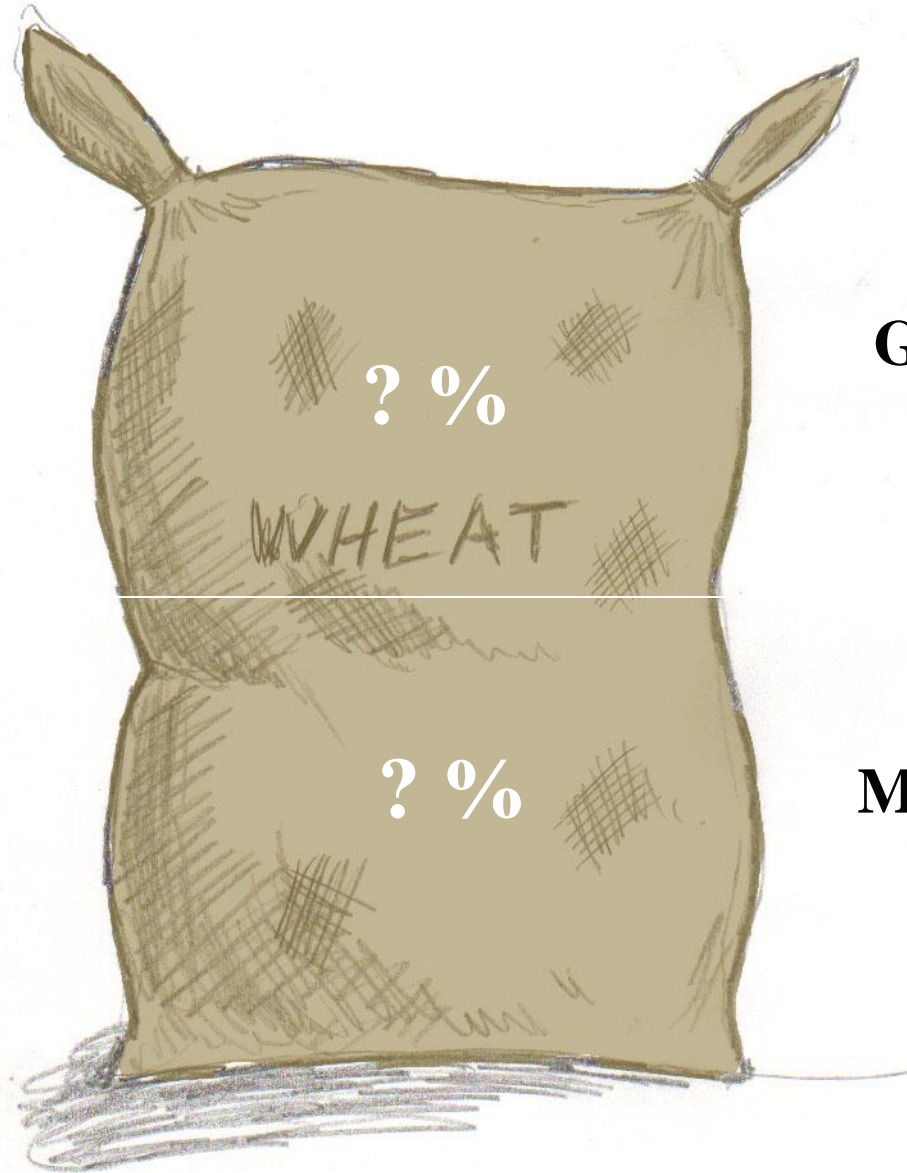
? %

WHEAT

Sown

Multiplied

? %



Five Benefits from Giving

Work is properly supported. 2 Cor.9:8

Personal needs are met. 2 Cor. 9:12

Causes thanksgiving. 2 Cor. 9:11,12

Demonstrates commitment. 2 Cor. 9:13

Stimulates prayer for the giver. 2 Cor. 9:14