

Doing **My** Part  
For The **Growth**  
Of The **Church**

Sermon Series Notes

"Doing My Part For The Growth Of The Church" (Ministry Fair 2009)

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Intro:

1. Eph.4:1-16

2. Did you know that many people in the church today aren't making any significant investment for the growth of the church? They attend church, but they are not playing a personal role in helping the church to grow.

3. God is into growth (both spiritual and numerical). church in Acts 120, 3120, about 5,000, then it multiplies...

#### I. CURRENT AND FUTURE GROWTH OF CCSP

\* I am amazed at what the Lord has done here at CCSP; Report on Easter weekend..where the Lord seems to be leading us...

\* Pay for Phase II in cash; Increase local outreach and cross cultural missions...

\* Plant churches

- Team approach (pastor, worship leader minimum; send others willing to go with them; i.e. Larry Gray).
- My change of opinion on "satellite churches."
- What's the difference between satellite church and overflow?
- Campus pastor (teach once per month, perhaps Wed as well) live worship, small groups, elders and leaders; two purposes, taking the church to places people are driving long distances in order to come here. Take the church to local areas where there is great potential to reach people we would not reach apart from a satellite campus. In both approaches, a group of people from "the mother church" would become the nucleus for the campus church...
- Plant 2 in 2010, one in Tampa

#### II. THE LEAST I CAN DO

\* The least someone can do, Matt.25:26-27; Luke 16:11

\* Prov.3:9; the tithe, offerings

\* If you are not honoring the Lord with your wealth, would you begin to do so? If you are not giving to help us complete Phase II, would you do so?

\* Some people believe they have fulfilled God's purpose by attending church and honoring the Lord with their wealth, when Luke 16:11 tells us that honoring the Lord with our wealth is just a prerequisite for spiritual growth. Eph.4 tells us that spiritual maturity is dependent upon some type of service that helps the church to grow (beyond simply financial giving).

### III. DOING MORE THAN THE LEAST

#### A. Because God Has Gifted Me To Do More Than The Least

\* Eph.4:7; I Cor.12;12-27; I Peter 4:10

\* My gift was discovered as a result of my getting involved in ministry. audition for drummer position at Liberty, called upon by Gordon Luff to share a testimony...

\* Note: We should not attempt to do what God has not called us or gifted us to do. If God has gifted one to speak, someone will want to listen to them (in time at least). If God has gifted one to sing, they will be able to carry a tune, etc.

\* A church had a man in the choir that couldn't sing. Several people hinted to him that he could serve in other areas, but he continued to attend choir practice. The choir director became desperate and went to the pastor. "You've got to get that man out of the choir," he said. "If you don't, I'm going to resign, and the choir members are going to quit." Reluctantly, the pastor talked with the man and told him he should leave the choir. The man said, "Why should I get out of the choir?" The pastor painfully revealed to the man that people had told him he couldn't sing. The man then said, "Well, at least fifty people have told me you can't preach!"

#### B. The Growth Of The Body Is Dependent Upon My Involvement.

\* Eph.4:16

#### C. My Spiritual Growth/Maturity Depends On It

\* Eph.4:14-15; I Tim.3:13

\* People that get involved "serving" grow in their faith

\* The worst thing you can do is just attend church. most people are simply spectators, not participants.

### IV. THINGS THAT WILL KEEP YOU FROM GETTING INVOLVED

#### A. You Just Don't Want To; Sin

#### B. A Feeling Of Inadequacy

\* I Cor. 12:14-22

- When I had neck surgery and they took some bone from my side. They said it was bone I didn't need. They lied, and I want it back! God didn't give the body anything it doesn't need.

\* Story of D.L. Moody

\* Humility must be linked with faith; Moses excuses (Ex.3 & 4)

### C. An Unwillingness To Do Something "Small"

\* Zech.4: 10 "Who despises the day of small things? Men will rejoice when they see the plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel.

\* Nehemiah 3: 5 The next section was repaired by the men of Tekoa, but their nobles would not put their shoulders to the work under their supervisors.

\* Many people want to do something BIG (Be on stage, etc.), but they never will unless they are willing to first do something small.

\* The fruit of this ministry is a result of years and years of faithful people doing the small things.

### D. The Busyness Of Life

\* Joshua 3, Jordan at flood stage...

\* Luke 8: 14 The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life's worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature.

## V. THINGS THAT WILL KEEP YOU FROM "STAYING" INVOLVED

### A. The Growth Of The Church

\* Acts 6, the neglect as a result of the growth...

### B. Opposition From "Without" (The Enemy)

\* Nehemiah

- Until the people began to do the work, the enemy never bothered them.

\* Haggai

- These people wrongly concluded that they should stop the work until things "settled down."

- When the Israelites crossed the Jordan, it was at flood at flood stage. And that is when God directed them to get their feet wet.

### C. Conflicts From Within

\* Note Eph.4:2-3

#### D. Disillusionment

\* Those “warm fuzzies” you felt at first faded over time.

#### E. Weariness

\* Gal.6: 9 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

\* Nehemiah 4: 10 Meanwhile, the people in Judah said, "The strength of the laborers is giving out, and there is so much rubble that we cannot rebuild the wall."

\* Elijah after Mt. Carmel

#### CONCLUSION

\* Swindoll, Mediocrity, pp.48-49

\* Read letter from lady (Redington Beach)...

\* Pray for the Lord to send laborers into the harvest...

\* Flash paper - represents all you've accomplished in this life that has no eternal value. all your time, energy, investments...