

DATE: Saturday – Sunday, June 12-13, 2021

SERIES: ChurchNow

SERMON: Becoming God's Church

SCRIPTURE: Luke 14:15-27

Luke 14:15-27 NIV

[15] When one of those at the table with him heard this, he said to Jesus, "Blessed is the one who will eat at the feast in the kingdom of God."

[16] Jesus replied: "A certain man was preparing a great banquet and invited many guests.

[17] At the time of the banquet he sent his servant to tell those who had been invited, 'Come, for everything is now ready.'

[18] "But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said, 'I have just bought a field, and I must go and see it. Please excuse me.'

[19] "Another said, 'I have just bought five yoke of oxen, and I'm on my way to try them out. Please excuse me.'

[20] "Still another said, 'I just got married, so I can't come.'

[21] "The servant came back and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and ordered his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.'

[22] "'Sir,' the servant said, 'what you ordered has been done, but there is still room.'

[23] "Then the master told his servant, 'Go out to the roads and country lanes and compel them to come in, so that my house will be full.'

[24] I tell you, not one of those who were invited will get a taste of my banquet.'"

[25] Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said:

[26] "If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple.

[27] And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

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How do we become the church that pleases God?

1. We _____ God where He _____.

- Christ is the _____ of the Body.
- We take on the _____ of Christ

2. We _____ those God _____.

- We _____ of others as God _____.
- **Acts 17:26 KJV** *And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation.*

3. We _____ the _____.

- We _____ with _____.

4. We _____ in _____ and _____.

- we _____ to self.

Lagniappe

Paul wrote to the church at Philippi, *“I thank my God every time I remember you.”* One of the reasons he was thankful for the church was because of their “partnership“ in the gospel.

Martha and I think of you as our partners in the gospel of Jesus Christ. We appreciate how you love and care for us and how you have lifted us on your shoulders during the times of Martha’s surgeries.

She is doing better daily and getting stronger and more active. I am thankful to be back worshipping with you this weekend and preaching. She is looking forward to being back with the church soon.

We cannot thank you enough for your love.

As I write this we are in the midst of **Vacation Bible School**. This year **VBS** is following the same modified format that we started last year during the pandemic, and it’s a good kind of different. God has been working, and we are seeing great things done for the gospel.

I am sure you use the phrase, “it’s like riding a bike,” a phrase that describes something you never forget. I think the reason you never forget how to ride a bike is because you learned it so early in life.

That is what **VBS** does for children. It gives them a background and foundation that they never forget.

I simply cannot tell you how important **VBS** and children’s ministry in general is to the church of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Thank you for giving to make this happen and serving to touch children for the rest of their lives.

