**Awakening Part 3**

Joel 2:12-17

**5 things the church needs to do in order to be Awakened once again to Mission of God.**

Mark Dever, “The Proper ends for a local congregation’s life and actions are the worship of God, the edification of the church, and the evangelization of the word. These three purposes in turn serve the glory of God.”

**#1 – We need to Return to the Great Love**

**Matthew 22:37-40, “**And He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ 38This is the great and foremost commandment. 39The second is like it, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ 40On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets.”

**Revelation 2:1-7, “**To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: The One who holds the seven stars in His right hand, the One who walks among the seven golden lampstands, says this:

2‘I know your deeds and your toil and [perseverance, and that you cannot tolerate evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and you found them *to be* false; 3and you have perseverance and have endured for My name’s sake, and have not grown weary. 4But I have *this* against you, that you have left your first love. 5Therefore remember from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first; or else I am coming to you and will remove your lampstand out of its place—unless you repent. 6Yet this you do have, that you hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. 7He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will grant to eat of the tree of life which is in the Paradise of God.’

**What did the church at Ephesus it used to be like?**

Acts 19 – These people met Jesus

* When they did, it messed up the city
* People stopped buying the silver gods
* Their redemption shut down businesses that were profiting from sin

**The message to Ephesus: You forgot about ME!**

**#2 – We need to Respond to the Great Cause**

**This is the work to evangelize lost humanity.**

**Acts 1:8, “**but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”

**Mark 16:15, “**And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.”

**In this we have two things that are important for the church and the individual Believer:**

* **The Mission of Reaching the Lost**
* **The power to fulfill the Mission (The Holy Spirit)**

**Romans1:16**, For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

**We don’t have to have the perfect words, because the Gospel has POWER**

**We need to share this Gospel.**

**It is that simple.**

**God will save!**

**It is that powerful!**

**#3 – We need to Receive the Great Commission**

**Matthew 28:19-20, “**Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

**When we accept Christ, when we receive the Gospel, we also receive the Gospel’s Mission.**

* **You are Built for this Mission.**
* **You were uniquely designed for it.**

**We must keep the Gospel front and center.**

Matt Chandler, “Making people comfortable on earth before an eternity in Hell is tragic.”

**The Solution is the Gospel.**

We need to see everything else as a means to the Gospel’s End.

Jesus is still the answer for the world today

**#4 – We need a Revival of the Great Gathering**

**Hebrews 10:24-25,**“and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, 25not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

**Ephesians 4:15-16, “**but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all *aspects* into Him who is the head, *even* Christ, 16from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.”

**Mark Dever, “The purpose of the church, in part, is to encourage individual Christians in their faith and relationship with Christ.**

**#5 – We need a Restoration of God’s Great Glory and Great Name**

**Restore: Bring back to it former position (rightful place)**

**Isaiah 26:8, “**Indeed, *while following* the way of Your judgments, O Lord,
We have waited for You eagerly;
Your name, even Your memory, is the desire of *our* souls.”

**Isaiah 48:8-11, “**“You have not heard, you have not known.
Even from long ago your ear has not been open,
Because I knew that you would deal very treacherously;
And you have been called a rebel from birth.
9“For the sake of My name I delay My wrath,
And *for* My praise I restrain *it* for you,
In order not to cut you off.
10“Behold, I have refined you, but not as silver;
I have tested you in the furnace of affliction.
11“For My own sake, for My own sake, I will act;
For how can *My name* be profaned?
And My glory I will not give to another.

**Philippians 2:9-11, “**For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, 10so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.