

Led by God Sermon Series: Week of November 26, 2023

2023 Aim Check-in

- Becoming disciples who make disciples, who make disciples.
- Creating a community of faith that meaningfully engages our community of residence.
- 1. Since you last met as a H2H group, have you made any movement towards the aims we've set for 2023?
- 2. How might we as a H2H group help support or encourage you towards these aims?

Discussion Questions Set #1

"So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ." (Ephesians 4:11-13)

- 1. Have you ever considered that one of the ways Christ actually leads His people today is through the leaders He appoints to the church? Do you think it is common to think of those in church leadership in this way (as people appointed by God)?
- 2. Why is it significant that Jesus Himself gifted leaders to the church?
- 3. Do you believe that Jesus gifts leaders to the church today? Why or why not? What difference does this make as we consider church leadership structures, etc.?
- 4. Discuss each of the types of leadership gifted to the church as to what they contribute to the overall direction of the church today:
 - a. Apostles those who minister trans-culturally or cross-culturally in pioneer type evangelism.
 - b. Prophets those who correctly communicate the revelation of God.
 - c. Evangelists those who effectively communicate the gospel.
 - d. Shepherds/pastors/teachers those who shepherd the people of God to maturity and Christlikeness and those who clearly explain and effectively apply the truth of God's word.

In sermon, it was suggested that though larger buildings, bigger budgets and more behinds in the seats might point to some level of success, the leaders Christ appoints to a church will assist that church in becoming more greatly unified, more deeply mature, and more functionally loving.

- 5. How might a leader's behaviour shift if he or she were to seek to fulfill the former three ends, rather than the latter?
- 6. What difference might what we measure as a leader's success make for a church in terms of its direction, activity and health?
- 7. How might we practically measure whether a church is becoming more greatly unified, more deeply mature, and more functionally loving?

Discussion Questions Set #2

"Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you." (1 Thessalonians 5:12)

"The elders who are good leaders are to be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who work hard at preaching and teaching." (1 Timothy 5:17)

"Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you." (Hebrews 13:7)

In sermon, we were encouraged to support those in church leadership in the following ways:

- ACKNOWLEDGE THOSE WHOM CHRIST HAS GIFTED TO LEAD US
- HONOUR AND APPRECIATE THOSE WHOM CHRIST HAS GIFTED TO LEAD US
- REMEMBER IN PRAYER THOSE WHOM CHRIST HAS GIFTED TO LEAD US
- 1. In what practical ways might we accomplish these three ways of supporting our leaders?
- 2. Why is it important to ensure that our leaders are supported and encouraged?
- 3. What might it practically mean to "have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you" (Hebrews 13:17)?

