

# God's Plan

## Composed of

God's plan through the church

God's plan to the church

**Matthew 28:19** Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

**Matthew 28:20** Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.

---

In the great commission to the church, the Lord Jesus commanded his disciples to preach the Gospel to the lost, baptize the believers and then teach them.

From the book of Acts we find that the early Christians did just that and that God confirmed His word with signs and wonders, just as He said He would do in the following:

**Mark 16:20** And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with *them*, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

### Some general statements.

The heart beat of any church must be the salvation of souls. The scriptures declare that without a vision the people perish. In my estimation many churches in the body of Christ has lost the vision and in an effort to find purpose have adopted the world's view of what the church is and is about.

Many have departed from preaching the cross. WHY?

The preaching of the cross is foolish to the lost.

**1Corinthians 1:18** For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

The preaching of the cross is offensive.

**Galatians 5:11** And I, brethren, if I yet preach circumcision, why do I yet suffer persecution? then is the offence of the cross ceased.

In an effort to not offend anyone, many have adopted a plan of good works and have ceased to preach Christ.

Churches that once boldly proclaimed Christ on the streets, have been reduced to ringing bells at Christmas time to gather donations.

In the pursuit of money to enlarge our beautiful buildings, we have given ourselves wholeheartedly to ice cream socials, chicken dinners and the like, all to the delight of Satan and those who desire the kind of preaching that tickles the ear.

**Matthew 7:13** Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide *[is]* the gate, and broad *[is]* the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: **Matthew 7:14** Because strait *[is]* the gate, and narrow *[is]* the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

Why did Jesus Christ die a horrible death on the cross?  
Why did He rise on the third day?  
Why does He set at the right hand of God the Father?  
What did He leave the church here on earth to do?

**Luke 19:10** For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

**Mark 10:45** For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

**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.

Shame! Shame! Shame! to those that have abandoned the mission.

**1Co 3:10** According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.

**11** For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

**12** Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;

**13** Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

**14** If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.

**15** If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

In this teaching I hope to lay out a general overview of our Heavenly Father's Plan. A plan that His only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ was willing to die for. How dare we change it.

## God's plan through the Church

### A. God's plan through the church - to those in the world

**Above all else - First priority!** - Salvation of the lost

**Mark 16:15** And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

**16** He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

Please notice:

**Romans 1:16** For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

**17** For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

The Gospel message **MUST** be preached to the lost. Paul said that the gospel was the power of God unto salvation.

Every church should have some type of gospel outreach to it's community.

This can be accomplished in many ways.

One of the most cost effective ways is:

Giving out gospel tracts; door to door, to the people on the streets, putting them in various places, etc. **for free Gospel tracts** - <http://www.fellowshiptractleague.org>

A lady in my home town of Ohio USA, put a gospel tract in a shopping bag; she received a letter from a lady in New Zealand, wanting to know more about Jesus Christ. The gospel tract left the United States and ended up in New Zealand.

We must remember, this is God's work and He works with us.

**1Corinthians 3:9** For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, [*ye are*] God's building.

The gospel message is the gospel message and it is the power of God for salvation to all who will believe and accept Christ. Whether it be delivered by radio, TV, or as simple as a piece of paper, God will bless this work.

[Romans 10:14](#) How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?

Christ is the Savior NOT the church.

The purpose of the church is not to meet peoples temporal needs but spiritual eternal needs, not that there is anything wrong with helping people. Many times the love shown to people through helping them is a witness to them of Christ's love. The problem is that we tend to get our priorities mixed up. When a church is involved only with the temporal needs of a community, it just becomes another organization that people will take advantage of.

Just where can we reach people at for Christ?

A few examples:

Nursing homes

Jails

Prisons

Schools

On the streets

Door to door

The church must regain the vision - the people of this world are lost and on their way to an eternal hell, their only hope is Jesus Christ.

[Luke 24:47](#) And that repentance and remission of sins should be **preached** in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

[Act 8:5](#) Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and **preached** Christ unto them.

[Act 8:35](#) Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and **preached** unto him Jesus.

## God's plan to the church

God has supernaturally enabled the church to minister to people whether they be in the church or out in the world, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

All through the scriptures we find the Holy Spirit enabling people to accomplish God's will and purposes.

Jesus promised His disciples that they would receive the Holy Spirit.

**Act 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 Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

According to the Apostle Peter this was for all Christians of every era.

**Act 2:39** For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, *[even]* as many as the Lord our God shall call. (see all of Ch. 2)

By the Holy Spirit, God has blessed the church with gifts and callings to effectively minister to peoples spiritual needs as well as to the physical needs.

**1Co 12:4** Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.

**5** And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord.

**6** And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.

**7** But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.

**8** For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;

**9** To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;

**10** To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another *[divers]* kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:

**11** But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

**1Co 12:28** **And God hath** set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.

**29** *[Are]* all apostles? *[are]* all prophets? *[are]* all teachers? *[are]* all workers of miracles?

**30** Have all the gifts of healing? do all speak with tongues? do all interpret?

**31** But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way.

**Ephesians 4:11** And **He gave some**, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

[Ephesians 4:12](#) For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

It was never God's intent that just the Pastor would minister to people. It takes a variety of calls and gifts to be effective. Paul compare the church to the human body in 1 Corinthians 12:22-27 and says that every part is needed. A Pastor cannot do it all.

A few examples  
Ministry to:

The youth  
The elderly - homebound etc.  
Unmarried people  
Married people  
Christians that have needs -food, clothing etc.  
The incarcerated