In Search of Church: The Church isn't a Building Wylie United Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Hatcher – May 24, 2020

<u>Matthew 16:13-18</u>

13 When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" 14 They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets." 15 "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" 16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." 17 Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in heaven. 18 And I tell you that you are Peter, and <u>on this rock I will build my church</u>, and <u>the gates of Hell will</u> <u>not overcome it</u>."

We are the Church, and the Church is...

1. CALLED TO BE <u>DEVOTED</u> TO CHRIST & <u>ONE</u> <u>ANOTHER</u>

Matt 16:16

Simon Peter answered, "<u>You are the Christ, the Son of the living God</u>."

Acts 2:42-47

42 They <u>devoted themselves</u> to the <u>apostles' teaching</u> and to the <u>fellowship</u>, to the <u>breaking of bread</u> and to <u>prayer</u>. 43-44... 45 Selling their possessions and goods, <u>they gave</u> to anyone as he had need. 46 Every day they <u>continued to meet together</u> in the temple courts. They <u>broke bread</u> in their homes and ate together with <u>glad and sincere hearts</u>, 47 <u>praising God</u> and <u>enjoying the favor of all the people</u>. And <u>the Lord added to their number daily</u> those who were being saved. We are the Church, and the Church is...

2. CALLED TO <u>REPRESENT</u> CHRIST <u>WELL</u>

<u>2 Cor 5:17,19-20</u>

17 Therefore, <u>if anyone is in Christ</u>, <u>he is a new creation</u>; the old has gone, the new has come! 19... And <u>he has committed to us</u> <u>the message of reconciliation</u>. 20 <u>We are therefore Christ's</u> <u>ambassadors</u>, as though God were making his appeal through us...

We are the Church, and the Church is...

3. CALLED TO \underline{GO} AND \underline{GROW}

<u>Matt 28:18-20</u>

18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore <u>go and make</u> <u>disciples</u> of all nations, <u>baptizing</u> them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and <u>teaching them</u> to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Wylie Methodist Church exits to...

LOVE GOD. LOVE PEOPLE. OFFER CHRIST.