

Fulwood Free Methodist Church

Message Series: The Church

Unpacking the Calling and Purpose of the Church



Week one: Manifesto

Sunday Morning 19th May 2019

Questions for Personal and Home Group Study

These questions are based around the content and theme of today's talk at our morning services and we recommend listening to the podcast and reading the Bible passages.

Key Bible passages:

John 17:6-23, Hebrews 8, 1 Peter 2:4-10

- 1) Have you ever read a manifesto? They are usually strong on the vision and objectives but low on detail.
 - From John 17:6-23 and other gospel passages make a list of what Jesus says about the coming Kingdom of God and his people?
 - Why do you think he did not leave a lengthy and detailed set of instructions?

- 2) Read Hebrews 8.
 - In what ways is the New Covenant better than the old one?
 - How would you summarise the impact of the New Covenant?

3) Read 1 Peter 2:4-10.

In the Old Testament, priests served God in the Temple.

- Why do some parts of the Global Church still have priests and what does the Hebrews 8 passage say about this?
- Given that if we love Jesus we are part of the priesthood, how should this make us feel?

4) In Genesis 1 God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness."

- What does this tell us about the unity of God and his original purpose for mankind?
- Why is our unity so important to God?
- Do our denominational affiliations matter to God?

5) In John 17:10 Jesus says, speaking about his disciples to his Heavenly Father, "glory has come to me through them."

- In what ways do his disciples glorify Jesus?
- How can we glorify Jesus this week?

The Church

Christians talk about the Church as the “Body and Bride of Christ” and acknowledge that it was started by Jesus and commissioned to be His unique representative on Earth. However, for many their experience of Church does not live up to their expectations.

We are looking at what Jesus taught about the Church so that we gain a fresh understanding of what He did for us on the Cross. He created a place where sinful men and women, despite their sins, may be accepted by God and enabled to live and rejoice in His presence.

We will see that the Church is the continuation of the ministry of Jesus who received sinners, ate and drank with them and drew them into His community.

May 19th	Manifesto	John 17:6-23 & Hebrews 8
26 th	Moulded	Ephesians 4:3-16
June 2 nd	Mosaic	1 Corinthians 12:12-26
9 th	On Fire	Luke 24:45-49 & Acts 2:1-8
16 th	Non-Members Only	2 Corinthians 5:11-6:2