

- ✓ Floyd McClung: 'We train them to be prepared to die for Christ...and 70% of them land up in the 10/40 window'
- ✓ Young man in Irak: 'You are a man of God, Sir. What do you say....?'
- ✓ Moustafa from Djibouti; I'd rather die than forsake my calling!
- What does it mean to be a disciple of Jesusa Kingdom pronouncer?

The Heart of the Disciple

The Mission demands the right heart!

Our mission starts in the heart of God!

Jesus passionately at work (9:35). Why the passion?

***Passion is created in the tension
between the Crisis and the Vision.***

Jesus sees the crisis:

Harassed/Helpless...like sheep without a Shepherd(9:36)

Jesus sees the Dream (The Vision):

The Harvest is plentiful!!(9:37)

➤ **Jesus had Compassion!** (9:36)

Jesus says: **I need harvesters** on my team! (9:37)

People with passion gathering the harvest!

**The Cost of Kingdom
Discipleship**

The Mission demands courageous followers of Jesus

God's love can never be put into practice without cost!

Sheep amongst wolves!(16)

- ✓ Local councils will flog you (v17)
- ✓ Governors and Kings will arrest you(v18)
- ✓ Brother will betray brother (v21)
- ✓ All men will hate you (v22)
- ✓ You will be Persecuted!(v23)
- ✓ You will be bad-mouthed (v25)
- ✓ They may kill your body! (v28)
- ✓ There will be no peace, but the sword(v34)
- ✓ Family members will be your enemies (v35,36)

Matt 10:23-25:

When you are persecuted (remember)...

‘A student is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master.

It is enough for the student to be like his teacher, and the servant (to be) like his master.’

If I'm called to sacrifice it will be worthy of my Christ...

Never do above the Master!
Never be above the Master!

You are above the Master, when....

- You cannot forgive your wife or colleagues or....
- You self-protect, justify, try to 'save face'...
- You look only to your own interest (Phil 2:4)
- You do anything out of selfish ambition or vain conceit (Phil 2:3)
- You avoid persecution for the fear of the crowd!
- You do not associate with the poor.
- When building the Kingdom is not your first priority.
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- ✓ Total self-surrender is needed!... self-denial for a higher cause! (v39)
- ✓ Fear God alone!(28)
- ✓ Do not be afraid! – the truth will be revealed (v26)
- ✓ Do not be afraid – your soul will be saved (v28)
- ✓ Do not be afraid – you are worth much more! (v31)

**“Never pity missionaries; envy them.
They are where the real action is...
where life and death,
sin and grace,
heaven and earth converge.”**

-Robert C Shannon.

*We need a faith that is robust enough
to engage, subdue and displace the faith that drives
the dominant work culture.*

*It needs to be a faith that
relativizes, subverts and overwhelms
the benefits of this idolatrous culture
with an alternative future that provides significance
and meaning
beyond what the culture can provide...
shaping work to serve a different future,
thereby shaping the people to serve a different Lord!*

(Mike McLoughlin)

Low Invitation/High Challenge Produces a discouraged/burnout culture.	High Invitation/Low Challenge Produces a cozy/chaplaincy culture.
Low Invitation/Low Challenge Produces a bored culture.	High Invitation/High Challenge Produces a discipling culture.

- If you put Jesus, the master disciple-maker in this diagram, we find He was both high invitation and high challenge...people loved to be around Him...they were attracted to Him...yet He continually challenged them. He confronted them where their lives needed to change.
- That's the kind of church I want to be. Those are the kind of messages I want to deliver each time I speak. To be a discipling church, we must find ways to be high invitation and high challenge.

George Barna:

Nationwide survey: **Describe your goals in life.**

Nine out of ten adults described themselves as "Christian."

They were personally committed to Jesus Christ, had confessed their sins, and believed they will go to heaven after they die because of God's grace provided through Jesus' death and resurrection.

But not one of the adults we interviewed said that their goal in life was to be:
'a committed follower of Jesus Christ or to make disciples'.

The world is in the mess
we have created
and the contribution of
the church to the solution
is minimal!

– George Barna

Can't we just keep on going down the same
path we're on,
making incremental adjustments along the
way?

No!

I don't know how to state it more bluntly.

The **Christian church is failing** to live up to its promise;

we're not even coming close to fulfilling it.

Our nation has a weak morality.

Believers are largely indistinguishable from nonbelievers in how they think and live.

The **church has lost its place at the table of cultural influence**

Can we restore the impact of the church through more events and buildings?

No!

It will take zealots for Christ!

—individuals who are intractably devoted to knowing, loving, and serving Him with all their heart, mind, strength, and soul—
if we are to transform our world.

-George Barna

Commitment!

My face is set, my gait is fast, my goal is heaven, my road is narrow, my way rough, my companions few, my guide reliable, my mission clear. I cannot be bought, compromised, detoured, lured away, turned back, deluded, or delayed. I will not flinch in the face of sacrifice, hesitate in the presence of adversary, negotiate at the table of the enemy, ponder at the pool of popularity, or meander in the maze of mediocrity.

I won't give up, shut up, let up, until I have stayed up, stored up, prayed up, paid up, preached up for the cause of Christ. I am a disciple of Jesus. I must go until he comes, give until I drop, preach until all know, and work until He stops me. And when He comes for His own, He will have no problem recognizing me – my banner will be clear.

The Message of a Kingdom Disciple

The Message and its Invasion!

- The Kingdom is near!(v7)
Go and bring heaven into people!
 - good news to the poor
 - freedom for the prisoners
 - recovery of sight for the blind
 - release to the oppressed
 - a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. (Is 61)
 - Justice, mercy and faithfulness...(Mt 23:23)
- Total (wholistic) healing is possible!(v8)
 - not only Spiritual needs! Earthly needs as well!
 - souls and cultures!
- Superior principles to a world functioning on inferior principles!

Mark Foreman

The key to transformation is Jesus' absolute invasion.

Rather, than offering to get people into heaven with limited results in this life, Jesus' offer concerns itself primarily **with getting heaven into people...** and thus transforming culture.

He came to invade the lives of broken people and, through them, transform a broken world.

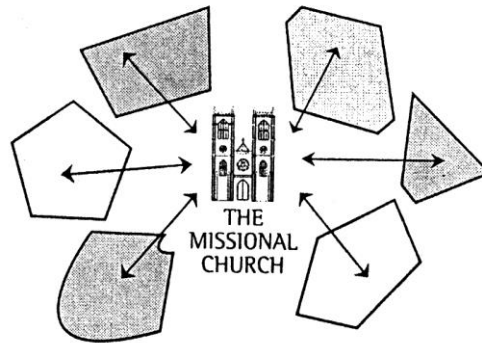
You are the body of Christ: that is to say, in you and through you the work of the Incarnation must go forward.

You are meant to incarnate in your lives the theme of your adoration – you are to be taken, consecrated, broken and distributed, that you may be the means of grace and the vehicles of Eternal Charity.

- Augustine

Reorientation of the church

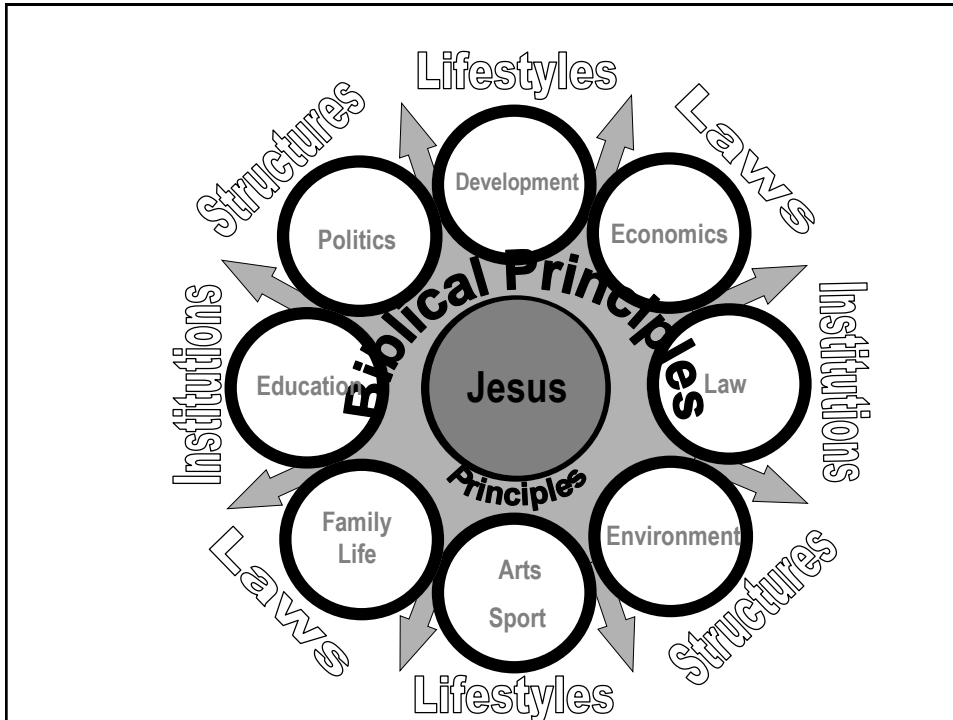
Postmodern position



. The changing position of church in society

The genius of Christianity is
**to invade lives and the pathways of
civilization**

like art, politics, business, education, sport
etc. with Christian faith and practice!



Kingdom Transformation:

“Transformation...is about reaching a critical mass of believers who are so empowered by the gospel of Christ that they change everything they touch
- family, workplace, schools and business.

As this critical mass is achieved,
the power of the living God brings significant changes
to the problems that plague our cities today
– poverty, crime, addictions, gangs, divorce, violence
– and a dramatic increase in the things that characterize
the Kingdom of God
– mercy, justice, prosperity for the poor and compassion”
(Harrington, 1999)

The Promise for Kingdom Disciples

Comforting words to the Harvesters:

- You will be Christ-like! (v24,25)
- As representative of God, you will be accompanied by the Son and the Father (v40), and the Holy Spirit!(v19)
- The reward will be great! –acknowledged before the Father! (v32); the righteous man's reward (v41)
- God has empowered you like a Father
 - gave authority(v1)
- God will take care like a Mother.
 - *You are worth much more...!(v31)*

We are in this together with Him!!

