



## Part 4: Committing To Growth

### INTRODUCTION – GOD’S HEIMLICH MANOEUVRE

Luke 5:1-11, 27-32; 9:23-25, 57-62; 14:25-35  
1 Corinthians 12:7; 1 Peter 4:10-11

Mark 4:18-19

Ronald J. Sider, *The Scandal of the Evangelical Conscience...*

### Why We Do What We Do

Genesis 1:26-28; 2:15-25

**TAKE OUT #1:** Creative labour is not a result of the \_\_\_\_\_.  
God delights in co-creating the future with us!

Genesis 18:18; 22:18; 26:4; Acts 3:25; Galatians 3:8

Romans 3:1-2

Matthew 28:19-20

**TAKE OUT #2:** We do not give, or serve, or obey because God needs us to. We give because \_\_\_\_\_ need to. We give to grow.

Ephesians 4:28

**TAKE OUT #3:** The reason we go to school, get a job, work hard and make money is so we will be better equipped to \_\_\_\_\_ others. This is the radical, counter-cultural way of Jesus. Take it or leave it, but don't try to use it to bless your ego-driven agendas.

*Extended Q & Eh?...*

### CONCLUSION – Identifying With Christ

Philippians 2:4-8

### HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS...

#### WARMING UP...

1. Talk about your reaction to this quote by John Chrysostom (347-407 CE): *Things themselves do not remain, but their effects do. Turn the things you have into eternal effects.*
2. Use your notes to review this week's message. As you go, talk about what points most challenged, perplexed, or encouraged you.

#### LOOK TO THE BOOK...

3. *It's Simple. We want the entire city to hear.* The vision of The Meeting House is to have a PPP (Public Preaching Point) within a 30 minute commute of everyone in the Hamilton-GTA corridor, a Home Church within a 10 minute commute, and a stable hub to resource the extended vision. (After that, we'll take a deep breath, and ask God what is next.) This is our best attempt at finding the right "wineskin" to help us fulfill Jesus' calling on the church in **Matthew 28:18-20 & Acts 1:8**. As one church, we can't do it all, but we are expected to do our part. After reading these passages, talk about ways you see our church goals as a practical reflection of Jesus' vision.
4. We've talked before about how the New Testament uses a variety of metaphors to describe the spiritual reality of the church. Each picture teaches us something about our *identity* and about how we should approach our *mission*. What are the implications of each of these self-concepts of the church? For each one, after reading the Scripture passages, discuss the implications it raises for how we live in relationship with each other and the world. How does this inform how we 'do church' at The Meeting House? How should this understanding be reflected in your experience of Home Church?
  - a) A NATION/KINGDOM – **1 Peter 2:9; Revelation 1:6;**
  - b) A PRIESTHOOD – **1 Peter 2:5, 9; Revelation 1:6;**
  - c) CHRIST'S BODY – **1 Corinthians 12:1-31; Ephesians 1:22-23; Colossians 1:18;**
  - d) THE SPIRIT'S TEMPLE – **1 Corinthians 6:1-2; Ephesians 2:19-22; 1 Peter 2:5.**

#### SO WHAT?...

5. You've looked at the implications of the above metaphors of the church for the church as a whole and The Meeting House specifically. Now how about *you* personally? Which implication discussed in #4 above is most challenging for your life? Which metaphor holds out the greatest challenge for how you relate to other Christians and/or the world? Pray for each other regarding this.

Bruxy Cavey @ THE MEETING HOUSE – Sunday, May 15 / 22, 2005



## Part 4: Committing To Growth

### INTRODUCTION – GOD’S HEIMLICH MANOEUVRE

Luke 5:1-11, 27-32; 9:23-25, 57-62; 14:25-35  
1 Corinthians 12:7; 1 Peter 4:10-11

Mark 4:18-19

Ronald J. Sider, *The Scandal of the Evangelical Conscience...*

### Why We Do What We Do

Genesis 1:26-28; 2:15-25

**TAKE OUT #1:** Creative labour is not a result of the \_\_\_\_\_.  
God delights in co-creating the future with us!

Genesis 18:18; 22:18; 26:4; Acts 3:25; Galatians 3:8

Romans 3:1-2

Matthew 28:19-20

**TAKE OUT #2:** We do not give, or serve, or obey because God needs us to. We give because \_\_\_\_\_ need to. We give to grow.

Ephesians 4:28

**TAKE OUT #3:** The reason we go to school, get a job, work hard and make money is so we will be better equipped to \_\_\_\_\_ others. This is the radical, counter-cultural way of Jesus. Take it or leave it, but don't try to use it to bless your ego-driven agendas.

*Extended Q & Eh?...*

### CONCLUSION – Identifying With Christ

Philippians 2:4-8

### HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS...

#### WARMING UP...

1. Talk about your reaction to this quote by John Chrysostom (347-407 CE): *Things themselves do not remain, but their effects do. Turn the things you have into eternal effects.*
2. Use your notes to review this week's message. As you go, talk about what points most challenged, perplexed, or encouraged you.

#### LOOK TO THE BOOK...

3. *It's Simple. We want the entire city to hear.* The vision of The Meeting House is to have a PPP (Public Preaching Point) within a 30 minute commute of everyone in the Hamilton-GTA corridor, a Home Church within a 10 minute commute, and a stable hub to resource the extended vision. (After that, we'll take a deep breath, and ask God what is next.) This is our best attempt at finding the right "wineskin" to help us fulfill Jesus' calling on the church in **Matthew 28:18-20 & Acts 1:8**. As one church, we can't do it all, but we are expected to do our part. After reading these passages, talk about ways you see our church goals as a practical reflection of Jesus' vision.
4. We've talked before about how the New Testament uses a variety of metaphors to describe the spiritual reality of the church. Each picture teaches us something about our *identity* and about how we should approach our *mission*. What are the implications of each of these self-concepts of the church? For each one, after reading the Scripture passages, discuss the implications it raises for how we live in relationship with each other and the world. How does this inform how we 'do church' at The Meeting House? How should this understanding be reflected in your experience of Home Church?
  - a) A NATION/KINGDOM – **1 Peter 2:9; Revelation 1:6;**
  - b) A PRIESTHOOD – **1 Peter 2:5, 9; Revelation 1:6;**
  - c) CHRIST'S BODY – **1 Corinthians 12:1-31; Ephesians 1:22-23; Colossians 1:18;**
  - d) THE SPIRIT'S TEMPLE – **1 Corinthians 6:1-2; Ephesians 2:19-22; 1 Peter 2:5.**

#### SO WHAT?...

5. You've looked at the implications of the above metaphors of the church for the church as a whole and The Meeting House specifically. Now how about *you* personally? Which implication discussed in #4 above is most challenging for your life? Which metaphor holds out the greatest challenge for how you relate to other Christians and/or the world? Pray for each other regarding this.

Bruxy Cavey @ THE MEETING HOUSE – Sunday, May 15 / 22, 2005