

THE EARLY CHURCH and BETHEL FELLOWSHIP CHURCH.

FRAGMENT FROM LAST WEEK: REVIEW:

- **VS. 41, 42; Doctrine/Teaching,.. Fellowship, The Breaking of bread,.. Prayers.**
 - How many this week spent time reviewing last week's teaching?
 - How many had fellowship with someone from outside your family and from the church.
 - How much time did we spend in prayer, corporate or private?
 - **VS 43: Fear: reverence, respect. Acts 9:31**
 - **VS 46: Again they continued daily in one accord. 1:14, 2:1, 4:32, 5:12**
 - **VS 47: The result: Praising God, Joy. Church growth.**

SERMON OVERVIEW: Now having seen the pattern, where are we?

I) PURPOSE STATEMENT: WE ACKNOWLEDGE AND PROCLAIM:

Bethel Fellowship Church exists by the grace of God, for the Glory of God, to promote passionate holiness within its members, and to extend the love of Christ to those within its reach, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

- **Exists by the grace of God:** The church is the work of God.
 - **Mt. 16: 18, 1 Ptr. 2:10, Eph. 2:8.**
- **For the Glory of God.**
 - Eph. 1:4-6, ⁴ just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, ⁵ having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, ⁶ to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.
- **Promote passionate Holiness.. Sanctification.**
 - **Eph. 4:11-16**
- **To extend the love of Christ to those within our reach.**
 - Within the church: **1 John 4:7, 8, Gal. 6:9, 10; Eph. 4:1, 2.**
 - Without: Mt. 28:18-20, John 20:20, 21, 1 Cor. 9:22, **2 Cor. 5:18-20**
- **Through the power of the Holy Spirit.**
 - Acts 1:8, Lk. 24:49,

SO HOW ARE WE DOING?

- **Existing by the grace of God.**
 - God birthed this Church over a half century ago. (6 adults)
- **For the glory of God.**
 - What we do we must do it in a Godly way for the glory of God.
 - May His will and pleasure be our goal. It is His Church.
- **To promote Godliness within our members.**
 - Preaching biblically, expository preaching, verse by verse, not pet subjects and doctrines.
 - Sunday school, Small groups, men's meetings, women's meetings, conferences/retreats/camps.
 - Challenge and Accountability.
- **To extend Christ's love:**
 - Youth outreach, Thanksgiving, valentines, food distributions, local mission projects, Manor Church, FCA, Gideon's, short term missions, missionary support in SEA, South America, Central Asia.. Hospitality.

We need the power of the Spirit.

- This is our prayer, our burden, that God would give the increase.
- **1 Cor. 3:5-7.**
- John 6:63; It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing, (the flesh provides no benefit NASB), (the flesh is no help at all, ESV)
- Pray, pray, pray...

II) WHAT IS THE CHURCH FACING TODAY?

- Oh believe it, we are in a war. The enemy is coming after Christ's Church, His Bride!
- But remember we fight not against flesh and blood. Eph. 6:12 BUT FIGHT WE DO!
 - **Rev. 12:12-17**