

## THE MULTIPLYING CHURCH

### Genesis 1:26-28 (NKJV)

<sup>26</sup> Then God said, **“Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have *dominion* over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”** <sup>27</sup> So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. <sup>28</sup> Then God blessed them, and God said to them, **“Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”**

Jesus said:

- a. I will Build my Church

#### **Matthew 16:18 (NKJV)**

<sup>18</sup> And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

- b. Go Make Disciples of Nations

#### **Matthew 28:19**

<sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.

- c. Be my Witnesses Everywhere

#### **Acts 2:8 (NKJV)**

<sup>8</sup> But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

## THE ACTS MULTIPLYING CHURCH

One of the marks of the things that defined the New Testament Church is that it grew and it was multiplying.

### **Acts 2:41 (NKJV)**

<sup>41</sup> Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.

### **Acts 5:14-16 (NKJV)**

<sup>14</sup> And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, <sup>15</sup> so that they brought the sick out into the streets and laid them on beds and couches, that at least the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them. <sup>16</sup> Also a multitude gathered from the surrounding cities to Jerusalem, bringing sick people and those who were tormented by unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

### **Acts 6:1,7 (NKJV)**

<sup>1</sup> Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution.

<sup>7</sup> Then the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

## Acts 9:31 (NKJV)

*<sup>31</sup> Then the churches throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and were edified. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, they were multiplied.*

## Acts 11:21-24 (NKJV)

*<sup>21</sup> And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord. <sup>22</sup> Then news of these things came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch. <sup>23</sup> When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord. <sup>24</sup> For he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord.*

## Building Blocks for a Multiplying Church

- 1. Gospel-Centered Church:** The Life-Transforming Power of the Holy Spirit working through every Believer
- 2. Discipleship-Driven:** Where we are Putting our Energy
- 3. Mission-Minded:** We are all Called to Live and Breathe the Mission of Jesus to the lost
- 4. Multiplication Thinking:** The Mission is so Critical, we need to Multiply more Leaders
- 5. Kingdom Expansion:** Churches that are Planting Churches

## THE MULTIPLYING CHURCH IS GOSPEL-CENTERED

The word “Gospel” comes from a Greek word called “Evangelion”, which literally means “good news”.

## Romans 1:16-17 (NKJV)

*<sup>16</sup> For I am not ashamed of the gospel [c]of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. <sup>17</sup> For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “The just shall live by faith.”*

1. The Gospel Reveals the Power of God for Salvation

### Acts 2:36-39 (NKJV)

*<sup>36</sup> “Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.” <sup>37</sup> Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Men and brethren, what shall we do?” <sup>38</sup> Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.”*

The Gospel introduces us to the One Man Jesus by which all men can be saved.

2. The Gospel Announces the End of the Effects of Sin in our lives

### Luke 4:16-22 (NKJV)

*<sup>16</sup> So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. <sup>17</sup> And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written:*

*<sup>18</sup> "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me,  
Because He has anointed Me  
To preach the gospel to the poor;  
He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted,  
To proclaim liberty to the captives  
And recovery of sight to the blind,  
To set at liberty those who are oppressed;*

*<sup>19</sup> To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord."*

*<sup>20</sup> Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. <sup>21</sup> And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing." <sup>22</sup> So all bore witness to Him, and marveled at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth. And they said, "Is this not Joseph's son?"*

Jesus came not only to forgive sins; He came to set us free from the effects of sin. He came to break the power of darkness over our lives and set us free for good.

3. The Gospel is the only Message that empowers the Church to Reach the Lost  
**Mark 16:15-20 (NKJV)**

*<sup>15</sup> And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. <sup>16</sup> He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. <sup>17</sup> And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; <sup>18</sup> they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover." <sup>19</sup> So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God. <sup>20</sup> And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen.*

The church needs to recover the Power of the Gospel, "with signs Following." This is not institutional church; this is every believer everywhere. It is not for a few anointed leaders and pastors; it is for Every Believer!

It is the Holy Spirit Empowering the Church.