

CHRIST CHURCH, VIRGINIA WATER SUNDAY 2ND MAY 2010

SERMON NOTES: 8.00 & 9.30 AM SERVICES

Title: "Acts: How Does the Church Grow?"

Preacher: Ro Mody

The Key Question: How do we grow Christ Church?

The Three Priorities that led to Church Growth in Acts:

1. PREACH THE WORD!

- I. Introduction: The Mission Plan of the Ascended Lord in Act and Word (1:1-14)
- II. The Word in Jerusalem (1:15-6:7)
- III. The Word Goes Out from Jerusalem (6:8-9:31)
- IV. The Word Advances in Judea and Samaria (9:32-12:25)
- V. The Word Goes to Cyprus and Asia Minor (13:1-16:5)
- VI. The Word Goes to Europe (16:6-18:22)
- VII. The Word in Ephesus: The Climax of Paul's Mission (18:23-20:38)
- VIII. The Word Reaches Rome: Paul's Final Journey (21:1-28:31)

Acts 5:42 Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped **teaching and proclaiming** the good news that Jesus is the Christ.

Acts 6:2-4 So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the **ministry of the word of God** in order to wait on tables. Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them and will give our attention to prayer and **the ministry of the word.**"

Acts 6:7 **And the word of God grew**; and the number of the disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests become obedient to the faith.

Acts 12:24 But the **word of God grew** and multiplied.

Acts 19:20 So the **word of the Lord was growing** mightily and prevailing.

So, Word Growth=Church Growth

2. PRAY FOR BOLDNESS!

Acts 6:4 and will give our attention to **prayer** and the ministry of the word."

Acts 4:29 Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great **boldness**.

Acts 4:31 After **they prayed**, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

So, Prayer for Boldness = Bold Evangelism

3. PONDER THE HOLY SPIRIT!

Acts 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Acts 4:31 After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all **filled with the Holy Spirit** and spoke the word of God boldly.

Acts 15:8 God, who knows the heart, showed that he accepted them by **giving the Holy Spirit** to them, just as he did to us. He made no distinction between us and them, for he purified their hearts by faith.

Acts 13:48 When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and honoured the word of the Lord; and all who were appointed for eternal life believed.

So, the Power of the Holy Spirit= People coming to Faith