Five Important Texts to CRCC!

"Reaching, Teaching and Releasing Hurting People through the Power of Jesus Christ"
May 20, 2018

I'd like to present to you today *Five Texts of Scripture* that have profoundly impacted our Church. Our desire today is threefold: 1) that you might be reminded why we do what we do, 2) that you might recommit yourself to the precepts, principles, and patterns of Scripture, and 3) that you might walk in increased joy and hope! Amen!

Text 1: Matthew 9:35-38

- When we observe the ministry of Jesus, we see that He prayerfully and powerfully 1) **Preached** the Gospel of the Kingdom, 2) **Taught** the people, and 3) **Released** (healed) the people.
- This is what CRCC is trying to do! Our desire is to preach the whole Gospel of the Kingdom of God that people might **MEET** Jesus. We want to teach the whole counsel of God that people may **KNOW** Jesus. Finally, we want to engage the forces of darkness and carnal mindsets that people might be released to **SERVE** Jesus! This is discipleship!

Text 2: Matthew 28:18-20

Here, our LORD commands His disciples…

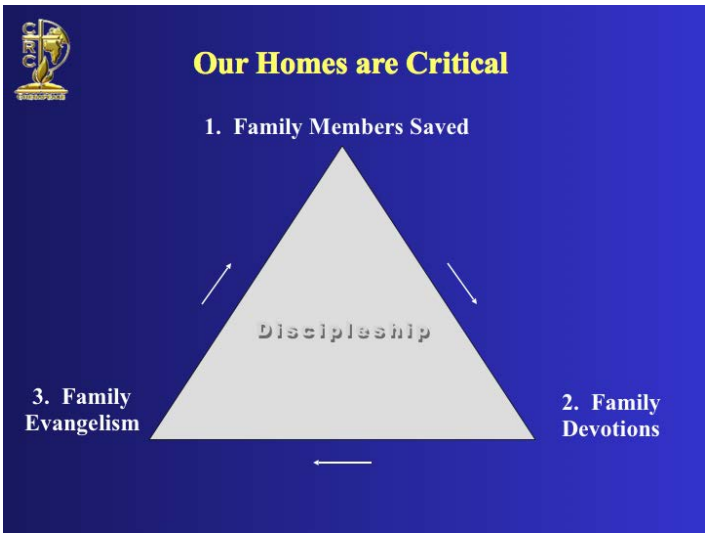
- To **Go**…in His power!
- To make disciples! The KJV says "teach." This is often translated, "make disciples" because that is the implication. The word in Greek for *teach* is "mathe¯teuo¯;" it means, to make "a learner, a disciple."
- To go to all nations!
- To baptize them!
- Again, to teach…not just obedience to "some things," but "all things whatsoever" our LORD commanded
- In the old days, we would have said we are commanded to "*Create Complete Christians*!"

Text 3: Deuteronomy 6:1-12

1. This text among others shored up a great weakness in our church…the loss of so many of our children. We learned so much from Deuteronomy 6:

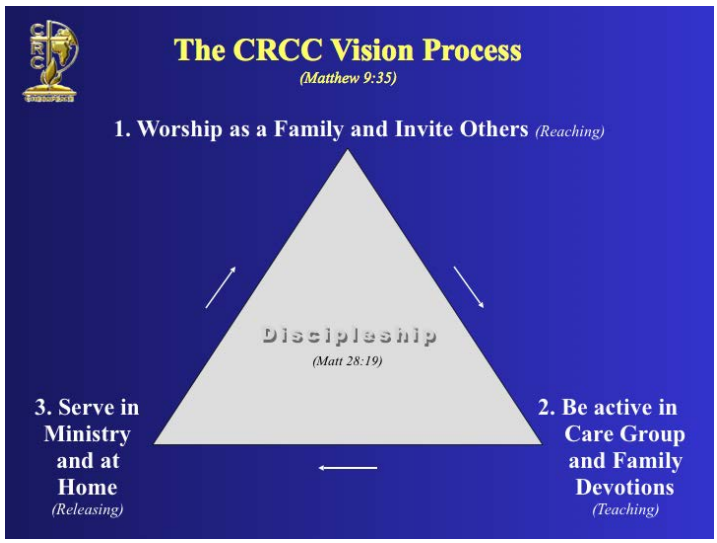
- Teaching our children is a **command** with a blessing! (vv1-3)
- God's plan for the transmission of the faith to the next generation is through the faithful instruction of **parents**. (v2)
- The first command is to teach them who God is and how to love Him with all their hearts. (vv. 4-5)
- A heart of "**diligence**" is critical! This speaks to the issue of passion, commitment, and a "whatever it takes mindset!" (vv6-7)
- This instruction, training, and discipleship are to be a **normal** part of the rhythm of the home. (v7)
- Our homes should reflect the worship of God and the **Preeminence** of His word. (vv. 8-9)
- To fail in this is to produce generations who forget God! (v12)
- Therefore, by implication, we desire to obey the biblical parental mandate, teach and live the word at home, make family worship a priority, catechize our children, bring back the catechism, develop a family covenant and vision, help fathers lead well (Eph 6:4) as applicable, and consider educational choices in light of Scripture.

2. As a result, nearly 10 years ago, we started to study in earnest what Scripture said about family and the discipling and training of children. That lead us to study how we worship with our children.
3. We found out that every major reference to corporate worship in Scripture included the children! So we prayerfully shifted and brought our children back into the worship service.
4. This joining together of church and family became part of our vision!



TEXT 4: ACTS 2:42-47

- This text showed us not only the power of continuing in the doctrine of the apostles (teaching), but also the power of communal or **community**-based church life.
- They broke bread TOGETHER. They believed and were TOGETHER. They had all things in COMMON. They continued DAILY with ONE ACCORD. They ate and fellowshipped HOUSE TO HOUSE…or TOGETHER. This was KEY to becoming better disciples!
- These verses and others moved us to meet together as families in smaller groups that we might more powerfully **CARE** for one another.



TEXT 5: 2 TIMOTHY 1:13

1. Many years ago, a word was given to our church that we are being raised to be a "Pattern House."
2. The *Pattern* can be described as: The fundamental **doctrines**, **expressions**, and **traditions** given to the Church by Christ through the New Testament writers.
3. The *Pattern* is simply "Who Christ intended His church to be, what He intended it to teach, and the way He designed it to operate. All of this is clearly illustrated in the New Testament."
4. The Apostle Paul often encouraged the church to build according to the Scriptures, which is another way of saying "follow the pattern." He also called it "holding to the traditions" they were taught (see 1 Cor 11:2; 2 Thes 2:15).
5. He wrote to the church at Thessalonica:
   - *2Th 3:6 Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us.*
   - *2Th 3:14 And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed.*

So, "Who is CRCC?"

CRCC is a church focused on glorifying Christ and discipling others. A Christ-centered view of ministry and the sufficiency of Scripture has caused us to focus on a few simple, but foundational, things Jesus commands for the home and church. His command to "go and make disciples" is the heartbeat of what we do.

May Christ help us please Him in all we do! Amen!

Applications for Edification and Encouragement

This week's family devotion homework is easy. Watch these sermons and enjoy! Please watch…*there might be a TEST next week!*

- A Biblical Vision Pt 1: Imagine Revisited! https://www.crcchesapeake.org/sermons/2015/1/a-biblical-vision-part-1-imagine-revisited?rq=imagine
- Who is CRCC 2016: https://www.crcchesapeake.org/sermons/2016/7/who-is-crcc
- Who is CRCC 2017: https://www.crcchesapeake.org/sermons/2017/11/who-is-crcc2017