

leave a mark

Week Two - On The Church

BOTTOM LINE

We believe that God wants to use the church as His primary vehicle to leave a mark on this world. The church should be a place that demonstrates radical grace and extravagant worship.

GOAL OF THE GROUP

Last week the discussion was about Jesus' great commission and what it might be like to obey His call. This week we will talk about how you can be on mission with the local church to leave a mark on this world that will last an eternity.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 7:36-50, Psalm 98:4-7

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. The local church gathering can help you carry out Jesus' great commission because it offers a space to invite others as you come together and experience God in a unique, corporate way that can't be fully experienced independently. Do you feel like your local church gathering helps you to carry out the great commission? Explain.
2. Read Luke 7:36-38 together.
 - a. Can you imagine the scandalous scene in verses 36-38? Religious leaders were having dinner in a home and this sinful woman (likely a prostitute) shows up and intimately worships Jesus! What do you think your reaction would have been if you were one of the religious leaders?
 - b. This is a picture of the church! It's a place where all people are welcome to have an encounter with Jesus, not a place for the self-righteous. Is this how the church is perceived? Explain your opinion.
3. Read Luke 7:39-43 together. What is Jesus illustrating to Simon in the telling of this parable?
4. Read Luke 7:44-50 together.
 - a. What are some of the contrasts Jesus points out between Simon and the woman?
 - b. The woman has an extravagant response of worship to Jesus. She doesn't care what others think! Do you feel comfortable engaging in an extravagant worship response at a church gathering? Explain your opinion.
5. Read Psalm 98:4-7 together.
 - a. The mission statement for Kensington Church is "To see every[one] transformed and mobilized by Jesus." What if the [ONE] is coming to a church service looking for radical people responding to the radical grace of God in radical ways? What are ways they might see this at your church? What's missing?
 - b. What might God be calling you to do as part of your local church to carry out the great commission?

"The gospel has always been about God's story intersecting with the human story. The church is uniquely positioned to tell the best story of all. So do it, well. Clearly people are looking for a better, richer, deeper story. Church leaders need to bring it to them."

~ Carey Nieuwhof



TRY THIS

I will leave a mark on my church by...1) Inviting someone to church, 2) Writing a note of encouragement to someone who volunteers, or 3) Joining a serving team. Choose one of these and do it! Come ready to share your experience with the group next week.