LOGO GRAPHIC

Matthew 11:19

The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!'

What does the Bible say ... about church?

What kind of church would you start ...?

→ We do not get to ask that question.

MAMAJO VIDEO

EGO: "Check it at the door ..."

Colossians 1:13-18 (NIV)

[God the Father] has rescued us from the domain of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son He loves. ¹⁴ In Him we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. ¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For everything was created by Him, in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities— all things have been created through Him and for Him.

Everything is (is supposed to be) ALL about Jesus.

¹⁷He is before all things, and by Him all things hold together.

¹⁸ He is also the <u>head of the body, the church</u>; He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He might come to have <u>first place</u> in everything.

Colossians 1:19-23 (NIV)

For God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Him,

²⁰ and through Him to <u>reconcile</u> everything to Himself, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through <u>His blood, shed on the cross.</u>

²¹ Once you were alienated and hostile in your minds as expressed in your evil actions. ²² But now He has reconciled you by His physical body through His death, to present you holy, faultless, and blameless before Him— ²³ if indeed you remain grounded and steadfast in the faith and are not shifted away from the hope of the gospel that you heard. This gospel has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and I, Paul, have become a servant of it.

There is a special focus and appreciation for what Jesus has **DONE**. (This appreciation grows into allegiance.)

Colossians 1:25-29

I have become its {the church's} servant, according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶ the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to His saints. ²⁷ God wanted to make known among the Gentiles the glorious wealth of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸ We proclaim Him, warning and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ. ²⁹ I labor for this, striving with His strength that works powerfully in me.

Recipients of what Jesus has done become servants so more people can receive reconciliation to God and reach maturity in Christ.

{all together}

RBCC:

- → Bible in hand
- \rightarrow Joe in mind
- → Ego in check

RBCC LOGO + Mission Statement (ONE SLIDE)

To glorify God by connecting people from all walks of life to life in Christ.

Behaviors of church members and methods of church often did not serve the mission of the church.

Strategy vs. No Strategy

{one at a time}

- 1) Prioritize the glory of God
- 2) Pray the priorities of God
- 3) Burden for the disconnected
- 4) Eliminate barriers of preference & tradition → bridges, not barriers
- 5) Disciples over decisions
- 6) More green lights than red (= *Break the huddle*)

Some Green Lights:

- Multi-Site
- H.O.P.E.
- Global missions
- Technology

Guardian pic

https://images-na.ssl-images-amazon.com/images/I/81sxD3sod6L_AC_SY679_.jpg

VICTOR VIDEO

{bullets come up one at a time}

Improvement:

- Reignite the burden ... (Baptisms were down in 2024)
- Be large numerically but small relationally
- Beware of the drift ... back to connection & discipleship
- More Bridge-Builders, more leaders

Looking Ahead...

1) Get love right ... as Christ has loved us → Gospel-Centered Shepherding

KENRA VIDEO

(This will be four slides – keep the header on each slide)

- 2) Value & Importance of discipleship to Jesus
 - Students of Jesus
 - Beyond attending → becoming ... being ... resting ... enjoying
 - All In Membership ... more to come!
 - o Red Letter Challenge: 80%!!
 - Sacred Assembly
 - Night of Worship
 - Goal: 250 (from 208) small groups

- ~75% in worship & SG are growing spiritually!
- Hurried → "Unhurried"

3) Evangelism

Church services are <u>not</u> the only or even the primary places where people get saved; Ministers are <u>not</u> the only people who can share Jesus and His good news.

- B.L.E.S.S.
 - o Build relationship
 - Listen
 - Engage
 - o Serve
 - Share
- 4) Digital world ... it's where people are!
 - → Rock Bridge App is coming!
- 5) Pillar of <u>Truth</u> (I Timothy 3:15)

What does the **Gospel make possible?**