Day 3 - Guidance for the Church

So, now we have seen Christ is the head and have human leadership in the form of pastors and lay leaders to give guidance and wisdom to help the church function in a healthy manner. However, this does not mean the rest of the church is to sit idly by and do nothing. What is our role? God has given us direction in Scripture as well.

Read Ephesians 2:19-22.

- What does He call those who are believers here? *(fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God)*
- To what purpose are we joined together as believers? (to be a dwelling place for God by the Spirit)

God has given us purpose and direction through the centuries, first through Jesus Christ as the Cornerstone and then built upon by apostles now continues on through those who are believers – that's you and me if we truly are Christ followers! We get to be the dwelling place for God to live and move in us by the Spirit. How does that make you feel?

This idea continues in 1 Peter 2:4-7.

- What words does Peter use to describe believers? (living stones)
- What role did he give here for us as "living stones"? (offer spiritual sacrifices)

We are called to be giving God our all. We serve Him and worship Him. This is not limited to leaders or those who are "really spiritual." It's for all of us who claim Christ as our Lord and Savior. And the ultimate reason to do any program or event or activity is found in the direction to share the Gospel.

Read *Ephesians 3:8-11*.

In verse 9, what was purpose in preaching the Gospel?
(to bring to light the mystery of it – that is Christ)

We are part of the process here in our church to share the Gospel and bring it to light in the lost around us. We operate together in such a way that "each member is responsible and accountable to Christ as Lord" (*Baptist Faith & Message*). This makes us congregational in our approach as we work together to bring God glory no matter what we do.

Pray and ask God to knit our church together in unity to preach the Gospel to the lost as well as bring Him glory in all that we do.

Listen to "The People of the Church" by FBC Houston.