Day 6 – The Missional Gospel Call for the Church

We know the focus of all things is the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It is no different for our churches. The *Baptist Faith & Message* states that churches should be "exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by His Word, and seeking to extend the Gospel to the ends of the earth." This is the directive Jesus left with His disciples in Matthew 28:19-20 to lead all people of every nation to become His followers.

Read Acts 1:8.

- Where are the disciples told to go? (Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the ends of the earth)
- Who will give us the ability (or power) to do this? (the Holy Spirit)

Read Ephesians 3:7-12.

- What does Paul say is given to him that allows him to minister and preach to the Gentiles? (the grace of God)
- How did he say the wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places? *(the church!)*

We, through the grace of God, have the ability to minister to others and preach and teach the good news of Jesus to all people everywhere. We have been given direction by Him to go out and share this with others. And, what's more, we have been given power and authority by the Holy Spirit to do so! So, what is stopping you from doing that? Take some time to reflect and pray for confidence in your faith to be on mission for God.

While we are part of this smaller body called FBC Piedmont, we also need to remember we are part of the global Church. 1 Peter 2:9 calls all who believe "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light." The Body of Christ "includes all of the redeemed of all the ages, believers from every tribe, and tongue, and people, and nation." (*Baptist Faith & Message*). This is why we go to all the world sharing the Gospel.

We have the church, both local and global, to focus on serving God together while building each other up in the process. And we can work together to see missions done both next door and out to the ends of the earth. Meanwhile, let's close by reading Hebrews 10:24-25 to be encouraged to continue meeting together as we see the return of the Lord coming ever near.

Listen to <u>"Facing a Task Unfinished"</u> by The Gettys.