

# The Church, The Whole Church, and Nothing But The Church, So Help Us, God- Part 10

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We're doing another little thing that we call AT Snacks. These are little bite sized nuggets (little excerpts) from the services, and you can go to our website and find them under AT Snacks. Another way to get them is in the lobby after each service.

When I'm talking about the church, I'm not talking about Trinity Fellowship. I'm talking about the Church universal. Jesus said, *"I will build My church, and the gates of hell won't prevail against it"*.

I expect quite a few of you are going through some of the greatest challenges of your lifetimes. Some of you may not be at this point, but I think you could be in the near future, because what God is doing is perfecting. He's getting us in a place and it's crunch time, so it's easy to see what the enemy is doing in those situations. But remember to start looking for, and seeing, what God is doing.

Jesus asked His disciples, *"Who do men say that I am?"* So they said, *"some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, or one of the prophets"*.

Once you are born again, old things pass away. All things become new. You now are a new creation. It used to be your tendency to sin. Now, it's your tendency to be righteous. So you cooperate with what God's doing in your life, and you fulfill that call, which is the hand of God on you.

The atmosphere around Jesus was 100% charged with agape (unconditional love). So many were drawn into that, into Jesus's presence. The Father wants to develop that very thing in you.

In an atmosphere of agape, there's no religious expectations, no holier- than- thou attitude and no *"I'm better or smarter than you."* attitude.

The most important question that will ever be posed to you will be, *"Who do you say Jesus is?"* If you say, *"You are the Christ, the Son of the living God"*, then blessed are you, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but the Father, who is in heaven. You believe it because God has imparted to you a measure of His faith to believe that.

No man comes to the Father, unless the Father draws Him.

Hopefully not you, but the church worldwide is still pretty asleep. So there's a shaking going on, because God wants a glorious church.

A lot of people believe that the world is just going to get worse and worse. A lot of people are praying for the rapture. It's going to happen when it going to happen. I wouldn't sit around, scratching my head and worrying about it, and looking up in the sky, trying to figure out when that's going to happen.

My urgency is teaching you about the Kingdom of God, teaching you about your place in the Kingdom, and how important you are to the plan of God in this generation. I'm talking to **you**, how important **you** are.

If you are going to know who the Father is, you can only know that from personal experience. Everything you do has significance when you look at it from a Kingdom perspective.

God wants us to be able to see Him, to enjoy His presence, to hear Him, love like He loves, and to impart His nature and goodness to the world.

Just take the time to be with Him, which there is no substitute for. Spend some quality, quality time with the Father.

You can't love someone if you haven't been exposed to them. I love God more now than when I first came to Him, because I've been exposed to His love more.

Ephesians 4:11 says, *"Jesus gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers"*. One of those five ministries has really been made an institution out of. It is the word, "pastor". And that particular scripture (Eph 4:11), is really is the only time that the word "pastor" was used in the whole Bible.

But we have made an institution out of that, and in modern times we have kind of ignored or not been properly taught the dire necessity of the other four giftings, especially of the apostles and prophets.

*"He gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists and some pastors and teachers."* Why? For the equipping of the Saints for the work of the ministry.

A lot of people want to just get fed, and they don't understand the equipping part. Babies have to be fed. Adults feed themselves. At Trinity, we're about raising up mature sons and daughters, to make it happen out there with what you do and with what you get when you come here.

The church and the Bible belt has not done a good job teaching about equipping the Saints for the work of the ministry, and as a result, the church can't do what the Church was geared to do.

A lot of people think that there are not apostles and prophets anymore. People don't have a problem with evangelists, pastors or teachers. But, they start to tap the brakes a little bit when we talk about apostles and prophets. God gave these five for the equipping, *"TILL we all come to the unity of the faith"*. Has that happened yet? **NO!** It's important that you know that.

So when it's talking about the knowledge of the Son of God, it's not talking about learning a bunch of stuff about Jesus. It's talking about having an intimate relationship with **the** Son of God.

Eph. 4: 14-16, *"That we should no longer be children tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head- Christ- from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies"*. **The maturing process can't come any other way.**

**You.** I'm talking to **you**. And I know you've been in the Bible belt too long, if you think this is for someone else. **NO**, it's for you. We must embrace this truth and get a revelation of it.

Jesus gave special jobs to some people in the church, like teachers and leaders. Their job is to help everyone in the church grow closer to God and learn about Jesus.

Jesus looked all this over and decided what He needed. He said, *“I need someone who could see the vision of where the Father wants the Church to go, and what the church is to be. Someone who would always be looking down the road and not setting up camp”*. That’s one of the things that an apostle brings to the table, is they’re always looking down the road.

**For the most part, the church in America has set up camp.** It always takes a Holy Ghost blast explosion to get them off high center, because religious tradition runs so deeply.

Without Apostolic influence, every church will stall out somewhere along the way. That’s why the stuff we’re talking about here is so extremely important. That’s why it’s been a subtle trick of the enemy to deny the ministry of the apostle and prophet, while the Bible says that **this is the foundation of the Church.**

I’m going to need someone who could see the vision of where the Father wants the church to go, someone who would have the same love for the church that Jesus did.

God’s going to raise some people up right here, who love the church as much as He does. When I step aside from this ministry, I want to hand this thing off to someone who cares about this as much as I do. Someone who would have the same love for Jesus and would give their life for the cause of God.

Jesus said *“That’s what I need. I’ll call him an apostle, and I’ll send him out wherever I want him to go. I’ll give him authority, wisdom, power and grace to establish the church that I’m building. I’ll place a compass in him so that when he’s prone to go left or right, that compass will bring him back to center, back to the plumb line”*.

*“His life won’t be an easy one. But I’ll”* (Jesus) *“be right there with him, step by step. I’ll prepare the way for him. I’ll move supernaturally in this behalf. I’ll cover him with my supernatural protection. I’ll tell him my secrets that others have ignored or overlooked, or just don’t want to hear, or just don’t know that they can hear. I will love this one. He will always be looking for a city”*.

When God called Abraham, He said, *“Get out of your country, from your family and from your father’s house”*. Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness. And the Bible says, *“He went out, not knowing where he was going”*.

Abraham was looking for the Kingdom of God to be started. Looking for a city whose builder and maker is God. That’s what I’m doing. That’s what we’re doing.

An apostle is so needed, especially in this time. And remember this, because you’re going to start to see a flood of stuff coming at you, saying that these things are not for today. And religious people will buy into it, hook, line and sinker if they don’t know the truth of what this Bible says.

Are you in a battle where it feels like you may never win? Most often it’s a mental thing where the enemy has established a foothold. He brings you back over and over it again, and tries to torment you with it, because he knows how to use his tactics to distract you.

You know you’ve been taught tactics for spiritual warfare. The question is, **can you see God in it?** Because He’s there, at the root of it.

James said in his letter, *“Count it all joy when you fall into various trials”*. I’m talking about the things you are going through. The Father also said, *“I will never leave you or forsake you”*.

Romans 8: 18, *“for I consider that the sufferings of this present time”*, (the things you’re going through that are testing you to the core). Listen, if you’re not getting tested to the core, you are going to be.

**And the key is to welcome it, to welcome the testing. Testing is good.**

What you’re going through now is nothing compared with the glory that’s going to be revealed in you. Submit to the process.