

From time to time I hear many of you say that you want the church to grow. And I realize that you mean that you would like to see the church grow numerically. How exciting it is to see people become Christians. To witness a new birth into the family of God via baptism is a real highlight to anyone's walk with Christ.

With this quest ever before us (evangelism), I regularly think about new ways to get the word to people. Is there some "new-fangled" method that we need to use that will fill the building with truth seeking souls? Have we overlooked anything? What role does God have in our effort to win souls? Then, after thinking hard about these questions I come back to that which makes people, organizations, ball teams, and churches great. They do the basics often and very well.

I can't think of a great athlete or tradesman who doesn't do the basics often and well. To reach the heights of their craft they know what got them there. They continually master the basics and build on that foundation.

For the church to grow numerically we must be spiritually sound. A praying church is a growing church. A Bible reading church is a growing church. A worshiping church is a growing church. A church that patterns itself after the NT, and whose members strive to be like Christ will be a growing church.

The next time you desire the church to grow you can do your part in reaching out to the lost by first doing the basics. After you have studied, prayed, and worshiped, it will be easier talk to your friends and neighbors about Jesus.

See you Sunday!

-gls