Intro: This Is Church! We are looking together at the essential elements of Church
What are the “non-negotiables?” What are the things that MUST be present?

7 Marks Of A New Testament Church
• Evangelistic Proclamation
• Genuine Relationships
• Sacrificial Living
• Christian Baptism
• Christ Centered Gatherings
• Apostolic Teaching
• Fervent Prayer

Today, look at the first one, Evangelistic Proclamation: Or…Telling People About Jesus!

Acts 3:1-10

Understand The Mandate:
This is the LAST thing Jesus told his followers to do in the Gospels, and the FIRST thing He told them to do in Acts
• Mt 28:19-20
• Acts 1:8

The way this command is put together is very important. Look at the original language, what it says to us is:
• Command: Imperative: Mt 28:19-20 Make Disciples: More more of you! Disciple do? FOLLOW ME!
Do that by:
~ Methodology Going:
  Going…make disciples
  Disciple making is something that you are always doing…
  Not a special intentional activity, but instead an ongoing opportunity
  Deut 6:7 Making a disciple is not something you set out and go DO
  Something you DO every part of your life…Lifestyle!

~ Mark Baptizing:
The singular mark of a NEW follower of Jesus in the book of Acts: Baptism
  When someone says, “I want to be a follower of Jesus…Get Wet!
  (Saw it with Peter and crowds (3000) Saw it with Philip and 1 man Ethiopian)

~Content Teaching to Obey:
  2Tim 2:2 “And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.”

Understand The Methodology:
Acts 3:1-10

We have this all wrong in our culture! We go about it in an entirely upside down way
And, it may be, that the REASON we don’t see the RESULTS they say…is we aren’t doing what they did!
Their methodology:
• Not “Intentionality” I’m going to set aside a special day, special time, special content…and DO IT
  I have a friend that needs to know…and I’m going to go “get em!”
  Nothing wrong with that…but that’s not what Jesus said!
• Opportunity:
  Take every opportunity
  Perfect example: Acts 3:1-10 They were just doing what they do…On their way to pray at the temple!
  Acts 8:1-8 They were just talking about Jesus wherever they ended up

God moved….opened up the door of opportunity When He did, they opened the door, walked in
Applic: That is what we are to do!
  At work….At school….On the ball field….Sitting in the stands watching the kids…over fence…at picnic
  Wherever we are…when the opportunity presents itself…we speak of Jesus

Col 4:3-6 And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ,
for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make
the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how
to answer everyone.

Understand The Message:
Acts 2:36-39

What is it that we as followers of Jesus should be saying FIRST to our world?
Peter says it clearly at the end of his sermon… I want to tell you about Jesus of Nazareth

• Spiritual Reality
  ~Lord: Supreme in Authority “the one we all must answer to!” Phil 2:9-11
  ~Christ: Messiah: The Promised One: The Anointed One
  The One that is the Way the Truth and The Life…
  The ONLY way to the Father

Listen carefully to what I am about to say. “Belief!” Intellectual agreement that Jesus is both Lord and Christ…is not enough!
James 2:19: Saving Faith: “You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that-- and shudder.”
There MUST be a personal response…and Peter defines for us what that response is!

• Personal Response
  ~Repent: think differently, life differently Change your mind and transform your life with God’s help
  ~Baptized: take the step that marked every new follower of Jesus in the book of Acts! Not a single instance
  ~Forgiveness: Acknowledge that you are a sinner, that you have offended a Holy God, Separated from Him

Total and complete belief: Baptism isn't NECESSARY for salvation…But if you know Him that way…follow Him!
Understand Who The Messenger Is:

Again, we are somewhat confused by this:

- **Concern:** Pastor    Evangelist    Special gifted person
- **Correction:** Every follower of Jesus
- **Challenge:** Look this week for the opportunity

Look for those around you!

Acts 3:1-10 Peter and John...on way to worship
Acts 8:1-8 Christians running for their lives
Acts 9 Phillip in desert
All over Acts Paul in prison!

Wherever they were...whatever they were doing...looking for the opportunity to tell about Jesus

**Applic:** Here is what I believe. God is always at work around us. He sent His Son...die on a cruel cross to open the door of heaven. Our world is filled with people on their way to a Christless eternity. And you and I are walking by them every single day. If we are listening...He will do with us what He did with Peter, John, Phillip, Paul...Hey...go over there...I’m working on their heart...Tell them how much I love them. Tell them my Son died for them. Explain to them...all they have to do is open their heart...I’m standing there knocking...

And I will come in.

**CONCL:** Two Questions:

1. Are you a disciple...A follower of Jesus Christ?
   - Believe He is both Lord and Messiah
   - Has there been a PERSONAL RESPONSE?
     - True Repentance
     - Found Forgiveness
     - Evidenced that spiritual reality by giving testimony and saying...I have been Saved, Transformed, Made new
     - I’m not perfect...but I’m following Him with everything that I am

2. Are you making disciples?
   - Looking for opportunities to tell others
   - Telling them about the love of Jesus and the forgiveness of God?

If not...if those two things are true...You need to make a commitment today.

You need to come...
   - Follow Jesus
   - Ask God to open the door for you to tell others.