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Monday Night Bible Study

Lakewood Church

The Church and its Mission

November 2022

**Showing Jesus to the World**

**1 Timothy 3:14-16**

**PART 1**

**We have been in a series on the New Testament Church**

* 1. What is the Church?
		1. The word “church” is a translation of the Greek word *ekklesia*, which is defined as “an assembly” or “called-out ones.”
		2. The church is the body of Christ, of which He is the head. Ephesians 1:22–23 reads, “And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.” The body of Christ is made up of all believers in Jesus Christ from the day of Pentecost (Acts 2) until Christ’s return. Biblically, we may regard the church in two ways, as the universal church or as the local church.

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**1 Timothy 3:14-16** - I am writing these things to you, hoping to come to you before long; but in case I am delayed, ***I write* so that you will know how one should act in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth.** Beyond question, great is the mystery of godliness:

He who was revealed in the flesh,
Was vindicated in the Spirit,
Seen by angels,
Proclaimed among the nations,
Believed on in the world,
Taken up in glory.

**If we’re the Church, how do we show Jesus to the world?**

**1 John 3:16-19 -** We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers *and sisters*. But whoever has worldly goods and sees his brother *or sister* in need, and closes his heart against him, how does the love of God remain in him? Little children, **let’s not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth.** **We will know by this that we are of the Truth**, and will set our heart at ease before Him…(peace with God).

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**James 2:14-18 -** What use is it, my brothers *and sisters*, if someone says he has faith, but he has no works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and be filled,” yet you do not give them what is necessary for *their* body, what use is that? In the same way, faith also, if it has no works, is dead, *being* by itself. But someone may *well* say, “You have faith and I have works; show me your faith without the works, and I will show you my faith by my works.”

1. Our actions and words are not the ingredients of our faith, but they ARE the evidence of our faith.
2. Jesus commanded us to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves.
	1. When we love other people with our words and actions, we are showing Jesus to the world.

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🡪 A preacher once asked a class, “What do you do with the commandments in the Bible?” A little old lady raised her hand and answered, “I underline them in blue.”

And then what?

**James 1:22** - Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

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**Matthew 25:31-40**

“But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. **32**And all the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, just as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats; **33**and He will put the sheep on His right, but the goats on the left.

**34**“Then the King will say to those on His right, ‘Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. **35**For I was hungry, and you gave Me *something* to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me *something* to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in; **36**naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me.’ **37**Then the righteous will answer Him, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry, and feed You, or thirsty, and give You *something* to drink? **38**And when did we see You *as* a stranger, and invite You in, or naked, and clothe You? **39**And when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’ **40**And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did *it* for one of the least of these brothers *or sisters* of Mine, you did *it* for Me.’

**Romans 12:9-21**

Love must be sincere.

Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.

**10**Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

**11**Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.

**12**Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

**13**Share with the Lord’s people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

**14Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.**

**15Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.**

**16Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.**

**17Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone.**

**18**If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

**19**Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God’s wrath, for it is written: “It is mine to avenge; I will repay,” says the Lord.

**20**On the contrary:

“If your enemy is hungry, feed him;
    if he is thirsty, give him something to drink.
In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.”

**21Do not be overcome by evil but overcome evil with good.**

**Action Step:**

**How can I add value (serve) to someone this week?**

**How can I practice my faith in action?**