



2010 - Part 1
Sermon Discussion Notes

Opening Thought

The late Larry Burkett used to say this: "The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing." Knowing what the target is will make hitting the target more likely. In this first message of the series 2010 we will discuss what the main thing is when it comes to the primary mission we have as a church. Just as a football team knows that the goal is to move the ball across the goal line in order to score points - we as a church need to be able to define what the win is when it comes to the purpose of our church.

Primary Scripture

2 Kings 7:3-11

3 Now there were four men with leprosy at the entrance of the city gate. They said to each other, "Why stay here until we die? 4 If we say, 'We'll go into the city'-the famine is there, and we will die. And if we stay here, we will die. So let's go over to the camp of the Arameans and surrender. If they spare us, we live; if they kill us, then we die." 5 At dusk they got up and went to the camp of the Arameans. When they reached the edge of the camp, not a man was there, 6 for the Lord had caused the Arameans to hear the sound of chariots and horses and a great army, so that they said to one another, "Look, the king of Israel has hired the Hittite and Egyptian kings to attack us!" 7 So they got up and fled in the dusk and abandoned their tents and their horses and donkeys. They left the camp as it was and ran for their lives. 8 The men who had leprosy reached the edge of the camp and entered one of the tents. They ate and drank, and carried away silver, gold and clothes, and went off and hid them. They returned and entered another tent and took some things from it and hid them also. 9 Then they said to each other, "We're not doing right. This is a day of good news and we are keeping it to ourselves. If we wait until daylight, punishment will overtake us. Let's go at once and report this to the royal palace." 10 So they went and called out to the city gatekeepers and told them, "We went into the Aramean camp and not a man was there — not a sound of anyone — only tethered horses and donkeys, and the tents left just as they were." 11 The gatekeepers shouted the news, and it was reported within the palace. NIV

Discussion Questions

1. Why is it imperative that we understand our primary mission as a church?
2. How does Bay Shore's vision relate directly to the Great Commission Jesus gave to his disciples immediately before he ascended to heaven? Look up and read aloud as a group (Matthew 28:18-20).
3. As the early disciples reached out to others Jesus promised to be with them. Discuss how God is with us in a very unique way when we align ourselves with his primary mission on this planet.
4. Discuss this principle: *"Just as an airplane has two wings in order to fly so the church must have the wing of fellowship and outreach simultaneously"*.
5. Re-tell and review the story found in 2 Kings 7:3-11
6. What were the conditions inside the city of Samaria? Why were they in this plight? Did they have hope or did they feel trapped? How does their plight parallel to the plight of people without Christ in this world?
7. What conclusion did the four lepers come to when they were starving outside the city?
8. When they discovered the rich abundance of food and resources in the abandoned camp of the Syrians what was the first tendency? What did their consciences eventually tell them after they were fulfilled from their hunger?
9. What do the lepers teach us when it comes to telling others about the good things we have experienced in Christ at our church? They were lepers. Do we have to be perfect to share the good news?
10. Discuss the action steps of how to reach others for Christ this year.
 - Make a prayer list of people that need Christ that you will pray for each day. See Psalm 126:5-6, Romans 16:7, Luke 22:31-32
 - Pray for the new Bay Shore Community Campus to open this spring and the people that will be going to help launch this new BSCC church.
 - Invite friends and loved ones that have drifted away from Christ or don't know Christ to a weekend service. (Great time is at the start of new series)
 - In 2010 seek not to be occupied with yourself and your needs but in your part in changing lives around you.

Concluding Thought

The famous missionary C.T. Studd once said this: *"Some want to live within the sound of church and chapel bell. I want to build a rescue shop just a yard from hell."*