

**General Topics :: Quantity or Quality?**

**Quantity or Quality? - posted by AbideinHim (), on: 2021/6/5 9:44**

What is God looking for in a church? Is it quantity or quality?

We could say that the church growing in number is important to God, because it is the will of God that all would be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. But God's way to grow a church is not through using the techniques and devices of the world. The Lord is looking for maturity in His people. He has called us to make disciples.

In the book of Acts we see that the Church grew rapidly after the Holy Spirit was poured out. The Apostles gave themselves to prayer and the Word. As the Word increased, so did the number of disciples.

“The word of God kept spreading; and the number of the disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were becoming obedient to the faith.” (Acts 6:7).

Jesus Christ is the source of all true increase and growth of the Church. The Word of God tells us that there is a danger in putting our trust in other things and losing our connection with Christ, who is the head of the Body.

“They have lost connection with the head, from whom the whole body, supported and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows as God causes it to grow.” (Colossians 2:19)

Jesus Christ and the early Church never compromised the truth in order to get a large following.

When Constantine declared Christianity to be the national religion, mixture came into the church, and there was no longer a price involved in following Jesus.

God's method of growing His Church is through prayer, the preaching of the gospel of the Kingdom, and the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Man's method of growing a church is to attract numbers by any means. The appeal is to get the needs met which is a good thing, but the most important thing that God has called us to do is left out, and that is to make disciples that are following the Lord, growing in spiritual maturity, and being transformed, becoming more and more like the Lord that they serve.

A. W. Tozer said this about the matter of growing a church numerically to be the all important thing in the Laodicean church age that we are now in.

“In Christian circles today, the church that can show an impressive quantitative growth is frankly envied and imitated by other ambitious churches. Numbers, size and amounts seem to be very nearly all that matter-with a corresponding lack of emphasis on quality! This is the age of the Laodiceans. The great goddess, Numbers, is worshiped with fervent devotion and all things religious are brought before her for examination. Her Old Testament is the financial report and her New Testament is the membership roll. To these she appeals as the test of spiritual growth and the proof of success or failure in most Christian endeavors. A little acquaintance with the Bible should show this up for the heresy it is. To judge anything spiritual by statistics is to judge by another than scriptural judgment. Yet this is being done every day by ministers, church boards and denominational leaders. And hardly anyone seems to notice the deep and dangerous error!”

Sent from my iPhone

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**Re: Quantity or Quality? - posted by AbideinHim (), on: 2021/6/5 19:06**

After Jesus fed the 5000 all of a sudden the multitudes were following Jesus, however Jesus had always laid out the conditions for following Him. Many of those that were following the Lord for a free meal were offended by Him and turned away from Him. Jesus never did change the conditions of following Him in order to draw a large crowd.