

Unity of Purpose

I want to begin by addressing the topic of unity. Unity will be tied to a couple of positions, **preference** or **purpose**. If we can partner in evangelistic purpose we can change our community.

We will never partner in preference because we are a diverse group of people who love God and worship Him from our own experience. If we love God with all of our heart, soul, and strength and we have received him and his finished work at Calvary by faith we are true Christians accepted by Him.

I want to focus on our **unity of purpose** and who we are and what we are to do with it. Jesus instructed His disciples to be pro-active. Observing is not enough, but doers of the Word (faith) are the ones who change the world.

Mark 11:23-24

Jesus teaches His disciples to be pro-active by:

1. Acknowledging the mountainous problem before you. Stop denying it.
2. Addressing the problem. What do you want to accomplish?
3. Expect a supernatural intervention. Know that as you do the will of God He will show Himself to the mountain.

Jesus encourages the pro-activity of the church. (Matthew 14:28-32)

- ❖ Peter walked on a raging sea when he heard the word of the Lord and forgot all of his limitations. Everything became relevant to the presence of Jesus Christ. When Peter saw Jesus, he lost focus on natural impossibilities and did fully what the Word instructed him to do.
- ❖ When he began to survey his environment and realized what he was doing was impossible, only then did he begin to sink. Sinking into the sea, Peter realized he was quickly becoming a part of the thing he feared the most. Another victim of a storm at sea, Peter called out to the only one who could stop this process. When he said, "Lord, save me!", Jesus elevated him above the sea and helped him back to the boat.

Failure doesn't make you a failure. Never moving away from your safety zone is what creates failures.

- ❖ **Jesus is no respecter of persons. He is also no rejecter of persons.**

Matthew 4:24, 8:16, 12:15 – *Jesus healed all that purposely came to Him.*

I always thought of this as a Jesus who scores 100%. He never misses, always strikes his mark. However the scripture is actually telling us he rejected no one. Society had their rejects, religion had their undesirables. ***Jesus loved them all with all of their quirks and qualities both positive and negative, Jew or not.***