

A Monday to Sunday Church: The Ministry of Wheat Street

John 6:1-14

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. **2** A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. **3** Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. **4** Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. **5** When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" **6** He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. **7** Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." **8** One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, **9** "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" **10** Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. **11** Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. **12** When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." **13** So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. **14** When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world."

It Is Not About What We Have but What They Need: A Needs Meeting Ministry

1. Jesus was concerned about what the people needed.
2. Jesus was committed to meeting them in their hour of need.
3. Jesus wasn't focused what he didn't have but rather on what the people needed. Phillip was focused on money Jesus was focused on providing for the people.
4. When you serve the people by giving what you have back to God to meet the people's needs God will multiply your little.
5. When we give what we have back to God to meet the needs of the people we will have left overs.

What we see throughout the ministry of Jesus is that Jesus met people where they were.

Jesus met their needs, not just on Sunday, but on each and everyday of the week.

Jesus walked them along their journey. He was there for them in the time of need and transition.

Jesus was called as are we to serve the people. As we follow Jesus' example we need think about expanding our ministry(ies). We want to expand our approach to ministry to include what we do now and more. We are not proposing we lose our ministry of annual celebrations but rather we are saying that to be like Jesus we need to have a life of ministering to people on a daily basis.

We have to develop our ministries so that they are outward looking. We have to look outside our four walls and ask who is it that needs to be touched by God's church?

The primary focus of our ministry is to look serve those outside.

When we look to serve those outside we are not looking for a return. We are not looking for them to join the church in exchange for our service but rather we serve them because God calls us to serve. **There will be occasion where people will want to unite with Wheat Street as a result of our service but that is not why we do what we do.** We do what we do because we are called by God to love and love demands action.

John 3:16-17

16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

17 "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

1st John 4:7-21

7 Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. **8** Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. **9** God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. **10** In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. **11** Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. **12** No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

13 By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. **14** And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his

Son as the Savior of the world. **15** God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. **16** So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. **17** Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. **18** There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. **19** We love because he first loved us. **20** Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. **21** The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

How do we make the move to expand our ministry foci?

Annual Day Celebrations and Daily Ministry: An Expanded Ministry Praxis

Missional Emphasis

What is our mission?

Questions to ask you define the mission of your ministry:

External:

Who are we called to serve (ministry specific)?

Where are they?

How do we reach them?

What are their needs?

What can our church provide for them?

How can they enrich and expand our ministry to the city?

How can we walk them on a daily / weekly / monthly basis?

Internal:

What do our members need?

How can we serve them?

How can we help them grow as Christians?

How can we walk them on a daily / weekly / monthly basis?

Ministry Activity:

What can we do and how will we do it?

What concrete actions can we do on a daily, weekly and monthly basis that will meet the needs of those we are called to serve?

Goals for Our Ministry:

1. **Outreach:** Who do we want to reach outside our church and how will we reach them? How will seek to serve them as we develop a relationship with them as to discern their needs and build ministry with them?
 1. How many people do we want to reach / new people who are not connected with our church?
 2. How many ministry events / actions do we want to have this year that reach people we are not presently reaching(daily / weekly / monthly)? What are they and what is their purpose (WHY)?
 3. What is the mission and purpose of our Annual Day as it relates to reaching those we aren't reaching and how will our Annual Day be focused on outreach? How will we know we achieved our goal?
What constitutes success for our Annual Day:
 1. Spiritual Goal - how will we as leaders grow closer to Christ?
 2. Discipleship Goal - how will we grow those in Christ?
 3. Numerical Goal - how many non-church members / non-Christians do we plan to reach and impact and how?
 4. Financial Goal (if applicable) - what will our offering be to support the ongoing ministry of God's church?
 4. Where are we going to go to be in touch with those God has called us to serve?
2. **In-reach:** How will we serve the present members of our church? What are their needs and how will we meet their needs?
 1. What concrete things will we do on a regular basis throughout the year to serve our present church members.
 2. How will we grow our ministry profile within the church to make room for new members to lead with us in ministry?

Evangelism and Social Media Outreach Ministry

Biblical Foundation: Mark 1:16-20

Mission:

The primary mission of the Evangelism and Social Outreach Ministry is that of evangelism. The Evangelism and Social Outreach Ministry shares with the congregation and the larger community what God is doing in and through Wheat Street via still images, video stories and social media (to include the church's website). The ministry also oversees and implements tools to assess and report on the effectiveness of the work of the ministry. The ministry works in collaboration with the Media Ministry.

Specific Task:

1. Develops and implements a communication and educational strategy to inform and empower the Wheat Street family as to the *whys* and *hows* of using social media and images/ video stories for the purpose of evangelism, social engagement and social justice.
2. Oversees the development and content for the Wheat Street website in relationship with an approved vendor.
3. Develops videos and still images to tell the Wheat Street story internally and externally in collaboration with the Media Ministry.
4. Oversees and manages the photography ministry.
5. Articulates and implements a strategy for the appropriate and effective uses social media.
6. Works in collaboration with the church staff in the development of marketing campaigns and publications for internal and external use.
7. Works in collaboration with the Media Ministry to develop video announcements for worship services and those to be uploaded to the website, Youtube and Vimeo.
8. Oversees and monitors the implementation of software programs for tracking of visitors / follow-up such as Text-In-Church and Flocknote.
9. Develops, oversees and implements a plan for the effective use of the Internet, PDF files and social media in worship, Bible Study and other church sponsored / related events.
10. Maintains Wheat Street's blog / vlog, Facebook page, Flickr Page, Twitter, Instagram, Youtube and Vimeo accounts (and other social media platforms adopted) with clerical / administrative support and coordination with the Communication Coordinator.
11. Develops an annual plan / strategy for the work of the ministry in consultation with the Media Ministry and in collaboration with the Communication Coordinator.
12. Produces a bi-annual mini-report as to the effectiveness of the ministry with proposed solutions to rectify inefficient and ineffective strategies.