

Day 2 - God's Vision for Our Church

Unity among our diversity with a church our size can be very powerful. Paul says in 1 Cor 1:10, “that all of (us) agree in what we say and that there be no divisions among us with the same understanding and conviction.” Doing these 40 days is one way we can accomplish this type of unity.

What does it mean to “agree in what we say with the same understanding and conviction” with so many different points of view?

Our focus scripture for today is Matthew 22:37–39 and Matthew 28:18-20

³⁷ He said to him, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. ³⁸ This is the greatest and most important command. ³⁹ The second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself.

And

¹⁸ Jesus came near and said to them, “All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

At the end of the day, loving God and our neighbor with all that we are and making disciples who make disciples is God’s vision for our church - this must be what we all agree on, with no divisions, the same understanding, and conviction. All of us have a role to play in seeing this realized in our church and in our everyday lives.

Pause to ask God to show you what is standing in your way in your way of loving Him, others, and making disciples.

As an invitation to a spiritual practice - a way to say “yes, Lord,” we invite you to spend 10 minutes journaling the things God revealed that are standing in your way of more consistently loving God, others and making disciples. Include how you could let those things go to God and live differently.

Prepare to walk with God into the day before us, the Lord who loves us says at the end of:

Matthew 28:20: “... remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Father, help us discern where you are leading us as a church - making Your invitation clear.

Jesus, help us become worshipers, friends, apprentices, and guides who live as disciple-makers in all areas of our everyday.

Spirit, help us become a disciple-making hub, loving the lost and proclaiming Jesus in all we do and say so our communities will flourish.