



Key References:

Ephesians 4:11–13 (ESV) – And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers,¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,¹³ until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,

Joshua 21:43–45 (NLT) – So the LORD gave to Israel all the land he had sworn to give their ancestors, and they took possession of it and settled there.⁴⁴ And the LORD gave them rest on every side, just as he had solemnly promised their ancestors. None of their enemies could stand against them, for the LORD helped them conquer all their enemies.⁴⁵ Not a single one of all the good promises the LORD had given to the family of Israel was left unfulfilled; everything he had spoken came true.

2 Corinthians 9:6–8 (ESV) – The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.⁷ Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.⁸ And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.

Luke 6:37–38 (ESV) – “Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven;³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.”

Mark 2:16–17 (ESV) – “Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?”¹⁷ And when Jesus heard it, he said to them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.”

1 – THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH?

How is Jesus’ definition of the church bigger than a building, finances, or administrative structure?

Read Ephesians 4:11-13. Here we see five leadership roles within the church. How does each one “equip the saints”? Why is it wrong to assume that “ministry” is only for leaders? How has God used the church to equip you for works-of-ministry?

How does v13 define what a fully mature church looks like? How do these answers fit into the reason of why we are doing a “becoming like Christ” sermon series?

2 – GOD’S PROVISION FOR HIS PROMISES

On Sunday Andy mentioned plans the new mid-week building, 3 staff positions, a heart for renewed discipleship, and filling our empty seats with the lost in Nanaimo. What excites you about the next season in church? How could God use you for works of ministry in this season?

Read Joshua 21:43-45. How does God provide for the mission He has given us? Do you have a personal testimony of this?

Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-8. Why does God look at the condition of our hearts when we give financially?

Read Luke 6:37-38. How do the words here remind us of how generous God has been to us through Jesus? Why does God not only ask us to be generous to the churches mission in our city, but also generous in forgiveness, non-judgement, and non-condemnation as we minister?

3 – MESSY CHURCH

Andy compared our future church to that of an emergency room in a hospital. Where the nurses and doctors know their jobs and what to do with broken people. Why did Andy say we need to be prepared to become a “messy church?”

Read Mark 2:16-17. What would Oceanside church be like if we started to see large amounts of sick and broken sinners pour into church? How would we all need to be ready and equipped for ministry in this situation?

Leaders: if there are questions about church finances the eldership would be more than happy to answer. Please have people directly reach out to office@oceansidechurch.ca where we will facilitate that.