

Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age." ~ Matthew 28:18-20

Four things a healthy church does well.

A healthy church

- 1) **...creates environments in which people can make the great _____.**

✚ Christians aren't _____!
&

✚ Jesus gives _____ and peace!

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

~ John 13:34-35

"For God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to _____ the world through him."

~ John 3:16-17

- 2) **...understands the significance of helping people _____ and establish meaningful relationships.**

People come to faith in Christ and develop that faith best in the context of meaningful relationships. Therefore, a healthy church will work hard to create environments where seekers and Christ followers can find others in the church of life-stage & similar _____ and establish a positive comfort level with them.

The Cycle of Life December 10, 2010

- 3) **...encourages followers of Jesus to embrace a mind-set of spiritual _____ by inviting them into a "life-to-life" discipleship experience.**

"So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, _____ and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness."

~ Colossians 2:7-8

When small groups of people meet together with "some regularity" for the purpose of growing in their understanding of how to live the Christian life, the probability of their "being rooted and built up" in Christ skyrockets!

"Give my greetings to Priscilla and Aquila, my co-workers in the ministry of Christ Jesus. In fact, they once risked their lives for me. I am thankful to them, and so are all the Gentile churches. Also give my greetings to the church that meets in their _____." ~ Romans 16:3-5a

- 4) **...motivates and equips followers of Christ to _____ beyond their comfort zones to have a positive influence upon others in Jesus Name.**

The greatest JOYS of the Christian life do not come from attending inspiring church services, attaining Bible knowledge or enjoying the same Christian friends years after year. The greatest JOYS of the Christian life come as a result of going out of our area of comfort and connecting with people for the sake of the Gospel of Christ. This is true because a relationship with Jesus has the power to totally change a person's life, and they will be forever grateful that you took the _____ and entered into their world.