

Kenmore Baptist Church Message Outline
5 June 2016 – John Robertson
Global Love Local [Part 2] - Love That Is Seen

KBC Mission Focus is the Unreached People Groups

An Unreached People Group is one in which “there is no indigenous community of believing Christians with adequate numbers and resources to evangelise their own people group.”

Our vision is to partner with the national workers in these places.

We use a three legged stool as a picture of Integral Mission- a whole and complete mission to reach the Unreached People Groups, our mission focus.

Our strategy is the simple 3 legged stool:

1. ***Love that is seen*** – community transformational work - traditional mission work: education; hospital, care for the marginalised and the outcast of society
2. ***Love that is heard***- churches planted and national leaders put in place.
Responsible evangelism
3. ***Love that is sustained***- national leaders trained and the leaders and the work are resourced.

The seat of the stool is partnership.

Love That Is Seen

Mission activity has sometimes swung between the two extremes of purely social work and sole evangelistic preaching. God created us as whole persons, however, and wants spirits, souls and bodies to be brought into wholeness. Practical projects addressing physical needs are not incompatible with supernatural ministry; rather, they are an outlet for God’s love and power to bring transformation to people’s hearts and lives.

-Bob Ekblad

In our contemporary world – where many minds and many countries are closed to the gospel – community transformation works inspired by the Holy Spirit and offered unconditionally as tangible expressions of God’s love have the power to defeat strongholds and bring God’s Kingdom and its goodness flooding into the lives and circumstances of families, communities and whole regions.

Love that is seen = meeting the real needs of ordinary people in Jesus’ name.

The church today has an unprecedented opportunity for making Jesus known through deeds of extravagant, Spirit-dependent love.

Love That Is Seen Is Meeting a Need

The sheep and the goats – Matthew 25:31-46

The parable emphasizes the connection between seeing a need and acting on it. Jesus wants His audience to understand that our love for one another and for Him is displayed in meeting the practical needs we may have.

Threefold action:

1. Seeing – Matthew 9:35-36

2. Compassion – Loving Mercy: Hebrew word “hesed” which also suggests a faithful steadfast love of “grace” and “kindness”. Hesed (loving mercy) invites action with the right attitude behind it.

3. Acting – This compassion that stirs in us needs to bear fruit, it must bring us to action – we have to do something with it!

When on mission with God we don't restrict the vehicle for the bringing of his kingdom to just the proclamation of a message – ***love that is seen is a message heard.***

Our Response

When it comes to our mission focus – unreached people groups, love that is seen means working in partnership with those that know best what the needs of that community are and what is required to help meet that need.

Our response is to see how we can meet those needs.

- Short term teams contributing to community needs (medical/building etc)
- Raising of finances
- Sponsor a child in need from Shalom Home

BUT what about tomorrow?

- God is bringing us the nations - what are we doing to meet their need? How are we engaging those who have a real need who have come from the nations to our nation?
- Friendship/English conversation/Taste of Australia/Your neighbour
- We are on mission all the time – what will you do tomorrow for the love of God to be seen through you?

Discussion Questions

1. Read through the passage from Matthew 25:31-46. Reflect on your thoughts with the group.
2. Are your eyes open to 'see'? What often prevents you from seeing people's needs?
3. Is your heart open to be moved with compassion? What blocks a stirring of compassion in you?
4. Will you act so that love can be seen? What does this look like both for our mission focus and for your Frontline?