

WHERE IS DBC GOING IN 2017? Pt. 2

A. The CENTRALITY of the CHURCH in this AGE. (Matthew 16:13-18)

B. The DIVINE DESIGN for the BUILDING of the CHURCH. (Matthew 28:18-20)

1. The *mandate* comes directly from _____ to His _____ and then to _____.
2. The *mission* is to _____.
3. The *means* to accomplish this (from a human standpoint) involves:
 - a. _____ ... so the lost are saved by God's grace.
 - b. _____ ... as a means of public testimony and identification with Jesus Christ.
 - c. _____ ... as a means of ongoing spiritual growth (though this teaching is qualified by the Upper Room Discourse and other NT principles, but certainly involves this mandate as well).
4. The *means* to accomplish this (from a divine standpoint) would involve the _____ of Jesus Christ, the _____ of the Holy Spirit, and the power of the _____. (Matt.28:20; Luke 24:46-49)
 - How does the GC find practical expression?
 - How does this apply to DBC in 2017?

5. Missions and the Local Church (Principles learned from a study of Paul's missionary journeys.)

a. The PRINCIPLES. (Acts 13:1-5)

1. The _____ is of primary importance.
2. Regarding the selection of these missionaries...

- God chose believers who were _____ the Lord in their _____. (Acts 13:1-2a)
- the _____ ultimately directed the selection by making it obvious to the _____. (13:2)
- the local church leadership _____ about this and _____ this as being from the Lord. (13:3)

3. Regarding the qualifications and training of these missionaries...

- the _____ of the missionary team were at least deacon qualified, and probably elders in their local church. (13:1)
- those chosen to go were _____ accurate, had relative personally _____, spiritually _____, and practically _____ right within their home church.
- their qualifications, giftedness, and faithfulness were well-tested and proven within their own _____ before being involved in missions. (16:1-3)

4. Regarding the support of these missionaries...

- it appears to have come primarily via their _____. (Antioch)
- it involved them having to act as _____, etc. at times. (Acts 18:3)
- it also included support from _____ local churches. (Phil. 4:14-18)
- it ultimately came from the _____. (Phil. 4:19)

5. Regarding the accountability of these missionaries...

- they were sent out by their _____. (Acts 13:3-4, 14:26)
- they were allowed freedom to _____ as the Holy Spirit led them. (Acts 16:6-11)
- they gave an _____ back to their own local church by rehearsing all that God had done with them. (Acts 14:27)

b. The CONCLUSIONS.

1. These missionaries were...

- selected from their local church
- serving in their local church
- sent out by their local church
- supported primarily by their local church
- specifically accountable to their local church
- spiritually refreshed back in their local church

2. Thus, it is clear from Scripture that God has chosen _____ as the focal point of His ministry today (Ephesians 4:7-16; 1 Timothy 3:15), including missions. Any missionary agency following this biblical blueprint must view itself as a servant and not sovereign to those churches. The mission's existence must serve to enhance and facilitate this divine model and mandate given to the local church, not vice-versa.

3. The _____ must, in obedience to the Holy Spirit, send those whom He separates for the task of world evangelism, discipleship, and church planting (Acts 13:1-3). These people who are sent by the church must be faithful men and women. In keeping with the principle found in Luke 19:11-27 and Matt 25:14-20, they must have been discipled before they can disciple others. They should first be found _____ in small things before being given larger responsibilities. Those who serve the Lord as missionaries should be witnesses for Christ in their local area. They must have shown a servant's heart through faithfulness in a local church ministry as well as a dependent, holy life, in their daily walk with the Lord.