

Opening Illustration:

- Some of our Staff had the opportunity to attend the *SBCV Bless Every Home Training* at Calvary Evangelical Baptist Church this past Wednesday.
- (Insert picture of Dr. Wheeler here) Dr. David Wheeler, Professor at Liberty University's School of Divinity, told the story of one of his students who did his Doctoral Dissertation on this one question, "What Does Your Church Do Best?"
 - Teaching – 42%
 - Fellowship – 42%
 - Worship – 16%
 - Evangelism – 0%

I wonder this morning if we were to ask that same question to the Church Family here at Beach Beacon how would we fare?

- Have the Church Family give us their response.

We concluded our Sermon Series last Sunday, Bless Every Home, why the push, the motivation, for if we are not careful, we will fade into the sunset with time.

- 4,000 (80 per week) (11 per day)
- There is some good news, there are 1,000 new Congregations started each year.

The *Francis A. Schaeffer Institute of Church Leadership Development*, have been in careful, steadfast research in quest of "why so many churches are failing."

- 22% of Americans "frequently" attended church in 1992.
 - frequency as at least 2 times a month.
- 20.5% of Americans "frequently" attended church in 1999.
- 19% of Americans "frequently" attended church in 2002.
- 18.0% of Americans "frequently" attended in church in 2010.
- 15.0% of Americans will "frequently" attend Church by 2025.

How do most Churches grow? (drop in salvations and baptisms)

- Transfer growth. (those that transfer just bring that issue with them to their new Church Home).
- It is not about you!

So, let's get personal this morning, how will Beach Beacon grow?

- Invest and Invite

- Why should I invite my family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers to Beach Beacon?
- Carl F. Henry – Preacher – “*The Gospel is only good news if it gets there in time.*”

(Insert picture of J. D. Greer here)

Luke 5 – J. D. Greer – Current President of the Southern Baptist Convention – *Whose Your 1?*

- **Luke 5:17-25**

- Jesus has returned to Capernaum to possibly teach at the home of Peter.
- There are some additional guest this time though, the Scribes and the Pharisees are in the crowd. (you talk about a tough crowd)
- “*The power of the Lord was present for Him to perform healing.*”
 - Faith – **Matthew 13:58**
- There is a paralytic man who cannot come to Jesus for healing, but he is blessed to have friends who were able to get him to Jesus.
 - They knew what he needed and took time from their lives to get him to Jesus. (*Bless Every Home*)
 - Prayed
 - Cared
 - Feet to their faith.
- They meet an obstacle, the crowd.
- They do not give up but rather looked for another opportunity, the roof.
- “*Seeing their faith*”.
- Jesus now forgives the paralytic’s sins (**why**).
 - If Jesus would have just healed the paralytic physically, he would have only been half healed.
 - Spiritually / Physically healed?
- I love when the word “immediately” appears in Scripture.
- “*I say to you, get up, and pick up your stretcher, and go home.*”
 - I wonder if the former paralytic kept the stretcher in the corner of his home.
 - I believe that the stretcher became a part of the man’s testimony of what Christ had done for him?
 - Peter – profane fisherman becomes a man whose very shadow heals. (Acts 5)

- **John in Luke 9** asked Jesus if they should call down fire to annihilate a Samaritan village, his life was changed. He would go on to write in 1 John that “God is love.”
- **Demon possessed man** – Jesus cast demons into pigs – becomes a quiet disciple. (Mark 5)
- **Samaritan woman – John 4** – had been married to five men and now living with another.
- **Cold-hearted Philippian jailer** - Acts 16:29-30, “The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. He then brought them out and asked, ‘Sirs, what must I do to be saved?’”

So today, **who is your 1?** (have the Church Family write on their cards their names and the names of their 1.)