



CHRISTIAN CENTER

2041

Part 1
September 12, 2021

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I. INTRO

- A. 30 years ago
- B. Most of you don't really have a point of reference for those first few years
- C. 2041 – what will joy be like 20 years from now, our 50th anniversary

We should all be concerned about the future because we will have to spend the rest of our lives there. — C. F. Kettering (1876–1958), American engineer, Industrialist

1 John 3:1-2 (NKJV) Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. ²Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

- Vision is like the headlights on a car

II. YOU ARE HERE

- A. You are here
- B. The experts agree

Judges 17:6 (NLT) In those days Israel had no king; all the people did whatever seemed right in their own eyes.

- There was no centralized government, there were only tribal leaders. Israel became fractured, and divided
- C. The church has faced tough times before
 - **Matthew 16: Jesus said that the gates of hell won't be able to prevail against the church: "I will build"**
- D. Where are we going?
 - Many of the questions I get really go back to: "When are we going to start doing what we used to do?"
 - We're currently living in a day that is very fluid and still changing

III. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH

- A. What is it about the Church that's so important?



Acts 20:28 (NLT) “So guard yourselves and God’s people. Feed and shepherd God’s flock—his church, purchased with his own blood—over which the Holy Spirit has appointed you as leaders.

- B. The church isn’t man’s idea, it’s God’s idea
- C. A local church is a place that Jesus visits his people with three things

Matthew 4:23 (NKJV) And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people.

- The local church is important because this is where these 3 things can happen

- D. Be expectant

IV. A FAMILY CHURCH TEACHING PEOPLE TO REACH THEIR WORLD

- A. Pretty good chance we won’t be the pastors of Joy
- B. We’ll be debt free!
- C. Truly equip you to reach their world

Psalm 78:3-4 (TPT) ³⁻⁴ We’ve heard true stories from our fathers about our rich heritage. We will continue to tell our children and not hide from the rising generation the great marvels of our God—his miracles and power that have brought us all this far.

- D. A place where people can truly experience God

Acts 13:2 (NLT) One day as these men were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Appoint Barnabas and Saul for the special work to which I have called them.”

- As a kid, I knew God was real, not because of what I was taught but because of what I experienced

Acts 8:5-8 (NKJV) ⁵ Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them. ⁶ And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. ⁷ For unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed; and many who were paralyzed and lame were healed. ⁸ And there was great joy in that city.