

Let's Grow this Church!

I Thess. 1:1-10

Introduction:

1. Each member of the Lord's church has a collective part to play in the growth and existence of the Lord's church today.
2. What can we do collectively as Christ's body to grow His Kingdom?

Discussion:

- I. We must be an energetic church (I Thess. 1:1-3).
 - A. Praying for each other is a motivation for growth – consider Paul.
 - B. We must be strongly convicted by our faith.
 1. Faith producing work.
 2. Faith that literally moves us to work for Christ.
 - C. Energized by a labor of love (1:3b).
 1. Probably for one another and the gospel.
 2. Pushing brethren to endure the pains for the salvation of others.
- II. We must be an elect church (1:4).
 - A. The church is chosen by God Himself (Eph. 1:4-7)!
 - B. How are we called to this election?
 1. II Thess. 2:14
 2. The gospel calls us to obey the will of God.
- III. We are to a church of example (1:5-8).
 - A. Paul's example to the church (5-6).
 - B. Thessalonica's example to the world (7-8).
- IV. We are to be an expectant church (1:9-10).
 - A. Faith is the assurance of things hoped for (Heb. 11:6).
 - B. The return of Christ should motivate us to do a great deal of things.

Conclusion:

1. We must be an energized and elect church, shining forth our examples, always looking for the expected reward.
2. These things make the everyday member of the Lord's Church an asset to Church Growth!