

North Park Family Meeting
Ephesians 3:14-21

I. Intro

- A. I'm grateful for our family of faith.
- B. I'm thankful for our church, ministry, and future.
- C. Where we are:
 - 1. We have a growing church, attendance is now back, and sometimes surpassing our pre-covid attendance
 - 2. Ministry continues, but more will need to be in place.
- D. Front Lines vs former battle ground
 - 1. We are in the front line in the battle for souls
 - 2. We are on the front lines in building the church
 - 3. We are not the folks who went through the battle 20 years ago and sit around and tell about it over and over...while doing nothing new.
 - 4. Front line churches are builders, not maintainers.
- E. There is a growth coming to our area that we must be prepared for.
 - 1. Every time you sit in traffic be reminded that the nations are moving to Grayson, County.
 - 2. Every time you see your taxes increase, or an overcrowded classroom be reminded!
 - 3. Many people are moving here for work, but in God's plan, they are moving here to encounter him.
 - 4. I lived in a fast growing area one time, and know they challenges and blessings we will face.
- F. North Park should be known as:
 - 1. A praying church
 - 2. A sending church
 - 3. A discipling church
 - 4. A place where kids and youth are safe and nurtured
 - 5. A multi generation picture of the body of Christ.
- G. We must go into this next season at North Park asking,
 - 1. "God, What would you have us do?"
 - 2. "How are you going to work in this?"
 - 3. "How can we best honor you?"

II. Text

[Eph 3:14-21 ESV] 14 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, 16 that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith--that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. 20 Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

III. Point

- A. World Mission
 - 1. Our mission is not just a local one, it is an international one.
 - a) We work here, and we work around the world
 - b) We are a sent people.
 - 2. Evangelism is the heart of our mission!
 - a) Proclamation
 - b) Discipleship

- c) Ministry/Service
 - d) Community
 - 3. So I ask you:
 - a) Reach your neighborhood
 - b) Go to the nations
 - c) Answer the call of God and serve as you have been gifted!
 - 4. How?
 - a) Pray, Give, Go
 - b) Prayer is the work, just as the rest is the work.
 - c) Give to the cause. Support the mission
 - d) Go to the nations: Next door, next state, next country, next continent.
 - B. Texoma Mission
 1. Our community is expecting growth:
 - a) Double in the next 5-10 years: that's nearing 100,000 people
 - b) 25 year projection: 340,000 people
 - c) Those people will need us to be prepared and ready to share Christ with them.
 2. Grow our Church
 - a) We must continue in the mission
 - b) We must renew our commitment to the vision of reaching this community as it expands.
 3. Grow the church
 - a) Church revitalizations
 - b) Church Planting
 4. As we grow our church, we also need to be sensitive to supporting the larger work of Christ in our community.
 - a) Center Cross Ministry to Homeless people
 - b) Share Ministry: food distribution and Sunday Services
 - c) Master Key: Education, English classes
 - d) True Options: Stand up for the unborn and the women in crisis pregnancies
 5. I challenge you to passionately share your faith with your circle of influence. Your ministry matters!
 - C. North Park Mission
 1. Community:
 - a) We are meant to thrive in community
 - b) I challenge you to get involved in Sunday School, or a Life Group
 - c) Wednesday night groups are thriving
 - d) Our Bilingual SS class is experiencing a revival
 - e) We need more space, and we need more leaders.
 - (1) Not everyone is called to lead, but some are
 - (2) If you are called to lead, we need you to lead!
 2. Worship through giving:
 - a) We cannot expect God's blessing regarding our personal finances without giving generously as he leads.
 - b) Malachi 3:6-10
- 6 "For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. 7 From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the Lord of hosts. But you say, 'How shall we return?' 8 Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, 'How have we robbed you?' In your tithes and contributions. 9 You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you. 10 Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.
- c) We have been blessed with a generous church that understands this truth.
 - 3. Financial Update

- a) For Budget: We are ahead of Budget, supporting missions and meeting the needs of our church.
 - b) for building:
 - (1) Pre building expenses: all the remodeling and parking lot were paid for with cash given before and during the project.
 - (2) Building expenses:
 - (a) Total project comes in at just shy of \$1.2 million
 - (b) We have borrowed \$971,000
 - (c) We have \$140,000 in our building fund
 - (d) That means, we need to raise \$850,000 dollars to pay for this project.
4. A change of worship space
- a) We are working on and praying about a plan for using this room as our worship center.
 - b) Details are limited at this point, but we have had so much positive feedback of our meetings in here.
 - c) We can host more people in this room, and relieve som of the space concerns we have
 - d) But we still want to use this space for the intended purpose. Therefore, we would need to pick up the chairs each week...It'll be fun!
 - e) We need to hear from the Lord on this!

IV. Close

Rapid Unscheduled Disassembly illustration