

January 1, 2012

COMING ATTRACTIONS – Looking forward to 2012

During the past seven months, we've studied the Ten Commandments and the first 9 chapters of Leviticus. My hope is that our connection to God is being renewed.

Moving into 2012 my desire is that we continue to grow in holiness and focus on accomplishing the purpose for which God has brought us together.

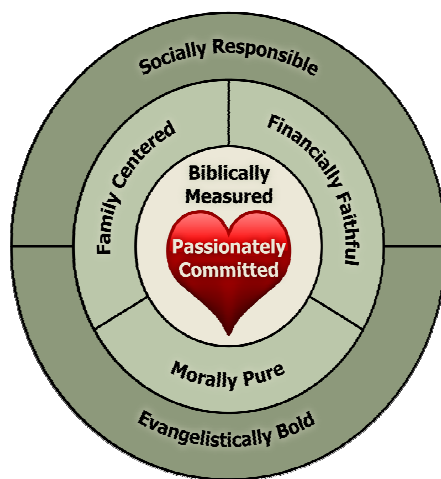
1. What is the reason for which God has brought us together? This is essentially a question of **what is church?** In answering that question is important to grasp the purpose, mission and functions of the church as described in the bible.

The purpose of the church is:

The mission of the church is:

The functions of the church are:

2. In order to effectively make disciples, we have to be disciples ourselves.
 - Philippians 2.5—
 - 2 Peter 3.18—
3. **The challenge** is to continually **take the correct next step** in the transforming process God has for us.
 - The Discipleship Model is a helpful tool in focusing our growth. It identifies 7 areas of life transformation.



How do you determine the next step in your spiritual growth? Where do you need to be targeting your growth efforts?

To determine what the best next step is for you, it is important to establish where you are in your spiritual journey. I want to suggest several questions based on this discipleship model.

PC—

BM—

MP—

FC—

FF—

SR—

EB—

HEBREWS 5.11-12 cautions against—

4. The challenge for each one of our ministries is to help facilitate this...to make discipleship happen.

We still do church. However we can work toward integrating our ministries. We can pool our efforts and build synergy as we carry out the functions of the church and make disciples.

Example: