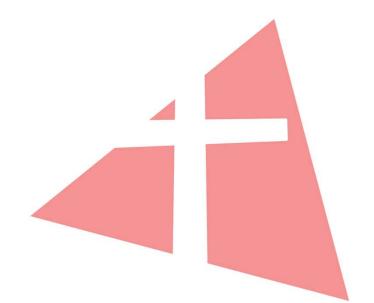
# Run the Race and Preach the Gospel

February 21st 2021

## **Our Prayer Focus**

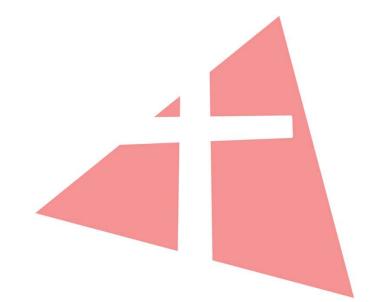
• Prayer is for God's Glory!



# **Our Identity**

#### • Our anchors

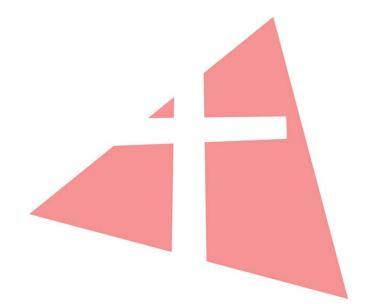
- Reach as many people as possible
- Teach those who are willing to listen
- Build Christ-Centered Community



#### **The Balance**

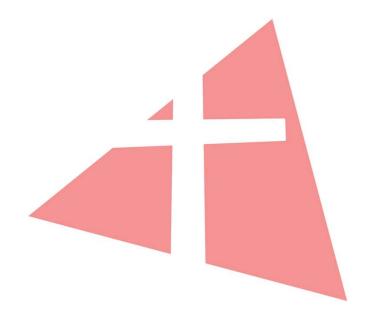
#### • Inreach and Outreach

- We had a season of "Focusing on Inreach"
- Ultimately we want to do both



# The main question

• What is God's personal calling for me in this church?



# The Body of Christ

**1 Corinthians 12:4-7** Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of workings, but it is the same God who works all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man for profit.

•••

**1 Corinthians 12:14-20** For the body is not one member, but many. If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? If the whole body were an eye, where would be the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where would be the smelling? But now has God set the members every one of them in the body, as it has pleased him. And if they were all one member, where would be the body? But now are they many members, yet but one body.

#### **The Book of Acts**

Acts 2:44-47 And all that believed were together, and had all things common; And sold their possessions and goods, and distributed them to all men, as every man had need. And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their food with gladness and sincerity of heart, Praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as were being saved.

#### **The Book of Acts**

Acts 4:32-37 And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that any of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common. And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all. Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold, And laid them down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need. And Joseph, who by the apostles was surnamed Barnabas, (which is, being interpreted, The son of encouragement,) a Levite, and of the country of Cyprus, Having land, sold it, and brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

# **Community in the NT**

- **1 Peter 4:8** And above all things have fervent love among yourselves: for love shall cover a multitude of sins.
- James 5:16 Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that you may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.
- *Matthew 18:19* Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth concerning anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father who is in heaven.

## **Community in the NT**

**1 Timothy 5:20** Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear.

**Matthew 18:15-17** Moreover if your brother shall trespass against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone: if he shall hear you, you have gained your brother. But if he will not hear you, then take with you one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto you as a heathen man and a tax collector.

# Community

**Proverbs 27:17** Iron sharpens iron; so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.

**Hebrews 12:1** Therefore seeing we also are surrounded with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which does so easily ensnare us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,

## A Prayer for this season

• What is God calling ME to do to contribute to this goal of 'strengthening our community"?

## **Evangelism**

**Acts 2:47** Praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as were being saved.

**Acts 4:4** But many of them who heard the word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand.

## Jesus' Commandment

*Matthew 28:19-20* Go you therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

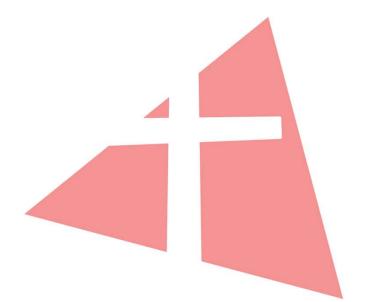
#### Second important question to ask God

• What contribution is God calling me to make towards the goal of "reaching the lost"?

## In conclusion

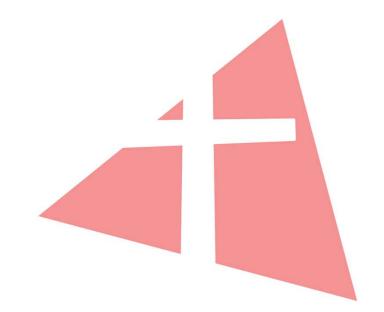
#### • The NT Church always did both

- Living in a close community
- Reaching out to those outside the community



## In conclusion

• Our goal: Aletheia will do both, all the time!



#### In conclusion

• Our Prayer Focus: What is God calling me to contribute to this goal?