

Heart to Heart Message

Pastor Dale Campfield – Eastgate Community Church

April 25th, 2010

Intro:

Matt 28:19 “Go and make disciples of all nations...”

ECC Process of Discipleship: Making an IMPACT...To Love...To Grow...To Serve

We have 3 priorities – To love... which is expressed in our Sunday morning celebration and connection groups. To grow... which is expressed in our Path to Discipleship. To serve... which is expressed in our daily lives in the places we live, work and play; as well as through the local church. The vision of E.C.C. is to gather together weekly for corporate worship, loving God and each other; then to come together in small Connection Groups for discipleship and fellowship, and are regularly involved in reaching out to others with the love, acceptance, and forgiveness of Jesus Christ through community outreach. To Love...To Grow...To Serve!

The message today is a message from my heart to yours. The Lord spoke this message to my heart while in the Philippines last week. It’s been burning in my heart since He challenged me with it. The message however is not just for you, it’s for me. I’ve been challenged by God and now I’m challenging you. It’s not a long message and the notes on this page will be fairly short and to the point. So, you’ll have to “read between the lines” as you read the sermon notes, and fill in the blanks within your own heart.

The State of EASTGATE...

Ezek 43:1-5 *Afterward he brought me to the gate, the gate that faces toward the east. And behold, the glory of the God of Israel came from the way of the east. His voice was like the sound of many waters; and the earth shone with His glory... And the glory of the LORD came into the temple by way of the gate which faces toward the east. The Spirit lifted me up and brought me into the inner court; and behold, the glory of the LORD filled the temple.*

The State of EASTGATE is GLORIOUS! If.....there’s always an if! The state of our church and the area of East side of Cincinnati is glorious – if – we walk in obedience.

The state of EASTGATE is GLORIOUS – if we walk in obedience!

2 John 1:6

“And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands.”

God knows the reality of our obedience and if we’re just faking it. We often time try to fake out others, making them think we’re obeying, but we don’t actually do it until we know they are around. Like it says here...

2 Samuel 22:45

“Foreigners pretend obedience to me; As soon as they hear, they obey me.”

Obedience is the key to the fulfillment of our vision.

I have a few questions for you....

Q1. – Do you really believe that I love you?

Q2. – Do you really love me?

Q3. – Do you really consider me to be your pastor?

Okay..... assuming yes is the answer to these questions, for you know I love you and I know that you really love me, and I'm your pastor, thus as your shepherd I have a God given responsibility to speak into your life, I ask you to hear what I have to say...

The vision of EASTGATE is to “Make an IMPACT.”

We do this by:

Loving, Growing and Serving.

Why? Because it's All About Souls. It always has been and it always will be about souls. Reaching Souls for the Kingdom of God – that ALL might be saved, having a true relationship with Jesus Christ!

Now... remember this: *“God didn't plant this church just to do business as usual!”*

We cannot and will not be a church that just goes about life, doing business as usual. I will not sit back and allow us as a church to go through the motions of “doing church” and not “being the church”. *“We will not just sit back and do church. We will be the church!”*

Again, let's look at our vision...

The vision of EASTGATE is to “Make an IMPACT.”

We do this by:

Loving, Growing and Serving.

Let's break it down and look at them individually...

LOVING

- God and each other
- Sunday a.m. celebration
- Property update

Question: Are we doing it?

GROWING

- Connection groups
- Path to Discipleship

Question: Are we doing it?

SERVING

- Our church
- Our workplace
- Our family
- Our community
- Our world

Question: Are we doing it?

In looking at our vision.....

Q. #1 – How much of this is really getting done?

Q. #2 – How much do we really care?

Q. #3 – To what extreme are we willing to make it happen?

Next week we will begin a new series on, “Change Your World Upside Down”.

I’m ready to change my world upside down. I’m ready to go out and make an IMPACT. God has challenged me to stop going about doing church and start being the church. Will you join me? Will you join me with the quest to Turn our World UPSIDE DOWN?

Paul, when writing to his brother Philemon states:

Philemon 1:21

“Being confident of your obedience, I am writing to you because I know that you will do even more than I ask.”

I would write it this way....

“Being confident of your obedience, I am challenging you with this message because I know you will do even more than I ask!”

Paul, when writing to the Romans states:

Romans 16:19

“For the report of your obedience has reached to all; therefore I am rejoicing over you”

I agree! The report of your obedience church has reached everyone! We have a reputation as church that we’re walking in obedience and it’s awesome! I rejoice with you! THAT’S MY PRAYER!

When we get serious, and being to fulfill the vision given to us by God.....

Then....

You watch, you wait, You’ll see!

Chorus:

Bm

Where you go I'll go

A

What you say I'll say

Em

What you pray I'll pray

Em

What you pray I'll pray

Vs:

Bm

A

Jesus only did what he saw you do

Em

Em

He would only say what he heard you speak

Bm

A

He would only move when he felt you lead

Em

Em

Following your heart following your spirit

Pre chorus:

Bm

A

How could I expect to walk without you

Em

Em

When every move that Jesus made was in surrender

Bm

A

I will not begin to live without you

Em

Em

For you alone are worthy and you are always good

Bridge:

Bm

Though the world sees and soon forgets

A

Em

We will not forget who you are and what you’ve done for us