

Step UP Sermon Series
Part One: “Stepping Up in Action”
Pastor Dale Campfield - September 12th, 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!

Today we continue our Sermon Series entitled: “Stepping Up” This will take place for the next five weeks to Sunday, October 10, 2010

Series Premise: It’s time to Step Up – to fulfill the CALL of GOD upon our lives.

Most of us have known Jesus Christ for years; some less, but most of us have known Him and had a relationship with Him for years. Through the years, though our hearts have been right and motives genuine, we seem to have “fallen asleep” as a church. The fact is, the time is short and the return of Christ is quickly coming upon us. It’s time to step it up as a church and make sure we’re doing everything we can to reach souls for the Kingdom of God, walking in the fullness of the Calling that is upon each of our lives. That’s what this sermon series is all about. Stepping Up and making it happen. Stop talking about it, stop learning it, stop dreaming about it, stop thinking everyone else is going to get it done and step up and do it!

What is the call of God upon our lives? Two Things...

The Great Commandment: To love God and others.

The Great Commission: To go into all the world making disciples.

That’s it. That’s the call of God that is on each of our lives.

KEY VERSE: 1 Cor. 11:1 “Follow me as I follow Christ.”

Stepping Up Action Cards: Each congregational member will receive a “Stepping Up Action Card” for each day of the series. The Action Card will challenge and encourage them to step up in a very practical way. Each card will also have a scripture on it for encouragement.

Set Your Clock/Cell Phone: The congregation will be asked to set the alarms on their watches, clocks, cell phones or whatever they have that tells them what time it is to 4:13 p.m. The Bible tells us in **Philippines 4:13** “I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me.” When the alarm goes off, they are reminded that they can do ALL THINGS with Christ. Their passion can happen and will be fulfilled as they Step Up.

The Bible says....

John 12:32

“If I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto myself.”

**Why must we Step it Up?
BECAUSE IT'S ALL ABOUT SOULS!**

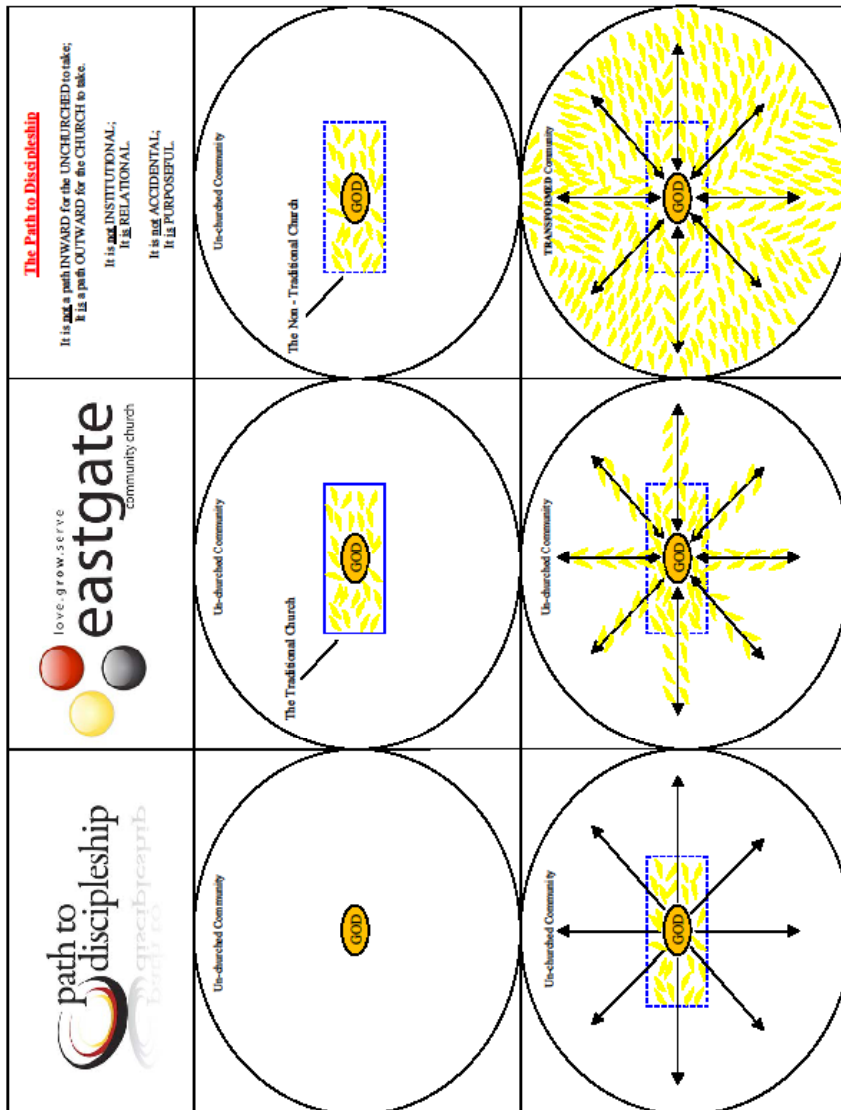
Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God."

Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Today, we're going to talk about "Stepping Up in ACTION"

On July 28, 2010 I had a dream from 6:09 – 7:10 a.m. I awoke from my dream and realized that this was from God. In my dream, I saw myself in the same church that I gave my heart to God in when I was 9 years of age, 1969; Harrah Assembly of God. A small church on the Indian Reservation in Yakama, Washington.

I was standing at the Altar, just down from the same spot that I gave my heart to Christ at. Standing at the Altar, someone came up to me and asked "What's Next?" It was then that I pulled out a piece of paper and wrote down the following....



What stood out to me the most was:

The Path to Discipleship

It is not a path INWARD for the UNCHURCHED to take;
It is a path OUTWARD for the CHURCH to take.

It is not INSTITUTIONAL;
It is RELATIONAL.

It is not ACCIDENTAL;
It is PURPOSEFUL.

It's time to step up in Action! It's time for the church to step up and begin to make disciples of all nations. It's time to put aside our fears and begin doing what God has called us to do.

QUESTION: WHY HAS THIS BEEN SO DIFFICULT IN THE PAST?

There is a reason why I feel it has been difficult for us to do.

REASON: WE'VE BEEN BRAINWASHED

BRAINWASHED BY WHOM? THE DEVIL!

Who has brainwashed us? The devil! He's distorted the whole discipleship making process in our heads over the years!

Brainwashed how?

- **That we must be ON FIRE to do this.** We've been brainwashed into thinking that we have to be some kind of super Christian that is always ON FIRE for Christ to be a discipler. We've looked at those throughout history that have been the soul winners and seen the BMOG – big men of God, and we feel like we can't do that. The fact is, you don't have to be ON FIRE.... Which usually people refer to as one who is feeling the move of God. Who is emotional. Who is blazing with God's presence. The fact is, we don't always FEEL on fire for God; sometimes we feel like we're barely a spark – but that's all it takes! It only takes a spark to get a fire going, as the song says. Don't wait for the feeling; just do it!

- **That we must KNOW THE WORD to do this.** We've been brainwashed into thinking that we must have a clear and concise knowledge of the Word of God; knowing it forwards and backwards and that we must have all the answers. The fact is, no one truly knows all of the Word of God. If you have to wait till you have all the answers, you'll never begin.
- **That we must BE TRAINED to do this.** We've been brainwashed into thinking that we must have some type of Bible training or Sunday School class training that will give me the "steps" to help take the person through. You don't need to have training to have an anointing of God upon your life. You have an anointing; it's time to walk in it. It's time to do what you've been called to do, to make disciples. The Bible doesn't tell us to "make disciples in all the world after you've been trained."
- **That we must HAVE PERMISSION to do this.** We've been brainwashed into thinking that we have to have the blessing and permission of the church leadership to speak into someone's life, to mentor them, to train them. The fact is, if you're waiting for my blessing – you've got it! Go and make disciples of ALL of them!
- **That we must BE PRAYED UP to do this.** We've been brainwashed into thinking that we have to have a certain amount of prayer built up and that we have to go out after we've prayed. The fact is, I believe in prayer and we must be praying; but we don't have to have a prayer meeting before we can begin to love on people. We're supposed to be discipling others all the time; not just after we've prayed. So yes, pray, and I'm not minimizing prayer; but as you pray – do! When the time is right, when the waitress is in need – you don't pray about should you help him/her or not, you do it!

God has commanded us to go and make disciples! It's not an option! Let's do this! Let's step up in ACTION!

And as you do.... You watch, you wait, you'll see!