

Harvest Workshop 2011

Main Street Church of Christ, Pikeville, KY

THE ONE MISSION

BY JOHN GIPSON

"The church has many ministries but only one mission." It's a line I ran across in my reading, and can't seem to get out of my mind.

I think of Christ. He performed many good works. He showed compassion, fed the hungry, healed the sick, gave sight to the blind, cast our demons, cured lepers, and raised the dead. His ministries were many. But his mission was one! "The Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."

And that mission he passed on to his disciples. In prayer, Jesus tells the Father, "As thou didst send me into the world, so I have sent them into the world."

We all remember the charge Christ gave: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age."

If you knew that you had only one week to live, what would you do with it? Would you tell as many people as possible about Jesus and the good things of the Gospel?

Charles Wesley expressed his desire in memorable words:

*Happy if with my latest breath
I might but gasp His name.
Preach Him to all and cry in death,
Behold, behold the Lamb!*

After reading this article I was reminded of a quote by Ronald Vallet. He declares, "It is my Judgment that the church has largely forgotten who it is, what it is called to do, and whose it is. It has become a household of amnesia." A hard statement, yet probably more true than not. Let us rise to the challenge and never forget our purpose and mission! - Josh Allen (Pikeville, KY)