

I Love My Church Sermon Notes

Today is not about hype—it's about purpose. Church isn't a building. It's a movement, a people, and a purpose.

WHY WE STARTED INNOVATION

67% of our community is disconnected from church. Not anti-God—but disconnected from hope, purpose, and God.

We said: We're going after that 67%.

GOD'S tool IS THE Church

"If the church is God's Plan A to change the world—and there is no Plan B—then we better know WHY we're here and HOW we do this together."

Luke 15:4-6 "If a shepherd has 100 sheep and one wanders off... he leaves the 99 to go after the one."

Jesus is after the ONE. So are we.

WARNING SIGNS FOR CHURCHES:

<u>Comfort</u> over Calling <u>Preference</u> over Purpose Insulation over <u>Invitation</u> <u>Criticism</u> over Compassion Maintenance over Mission

"Jesus didn't save us so we could sit. He saved us so we could **SERVE**."

FIRST IMPRESSIONS MATTER

People decide in <u>7 Seconds</u> if they feel welcome.

Smiles, clean spaces, coffee, excellence—it all matters! Are you willing to give up your comfort so someone else can meet Jesus?

WE TAKE **RISKS**

Matthew 14:29 "Jesus said, 'Come.' Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water."

Peter walked on water because he took the risk. Churches <u>die</u> not because God stops moving—but because we do.

Examples of Risks We've Taken:

Playground in the lobby Fireworks on the south side A third service Creative series titles

"If **ONE** person meets Jesus, it's worth it."

WE ARE **BETTER** TOGETHER

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 "Two are better than one... if one falls, the other can help them up."

Isolation = <u>vulnerability</u> Connection = <u>strength</u>

Join a Connect Group, serve on a Team, show up consistently

WE FOLLOW **JESUS**, NOT TRENDS

1 Corinthians 11:1 "Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ." We change methods, never the message. Love God. Love People. Make Disciples.

OUR MISSION:

To connect others to their unique purpose.

REAL STORIES:

We don't do this for numbers. We do this for names. For souls.

WHAT'S YOUR NEXT STEP?

Join a Connect Group (Launching soon!) Start Serving – Text "JTH" to 855-398-4752 Start Giving Say YES to Jesus

Romans 10:9 "If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead—you will be saved." Pray: "Jesus, I know I need You... I give You my life — I'm Yours."

NEXT STEPS CLASS - August 31 - Text Next Steps to 855-398-4752 to sign up TODAY.

Learn how to know God, know Innovation, and know yourself. Don't just go to church — BE the church.

FINAL CHALLENGE

Let's keep saying YES to what God wants to do through us. Let's keep reaching the 67%. Let's keep becoming who He made us to be.

TALK IT OVER What part of the 67% statistic hit you the hardest—and why? How does it change the way you see your neighbors, coworkers, or even your own role in the church? Comfort vs. Calling – In what ways are you choosing comfort over calling in your walk with Jesus? Where might God be asking you to risk discomfort for the sake of someone else? Are you just attending church, or are you being the church? What's the difference—and what do you think God wants your next step to be?

PUT IT INTO ACTION Serve someone this week Choose one act of service—whether inside the church or out—to intentionally meet someone else's need and reflect God's love. Join a team or group Don't just sit in a row. Step into a circle. Text "JTH" or "Next Steps" to 855-398-4752 to start moving forward or sign up for a Connect Group in two weeks to build relationships and grow in purpose. Invite someone from the 67% Reach out to someone disconnected from church. Invite them to a Sunday, to your group, or even just for coffee—meet them where they are.