

January 6, 2013
2013-The Year of Discipleship
Matthew 28:19-20

Introduction:

Last month we began our 20th year of ministry at Clements. On December 1, 2013 Clements will celebrate twenty years of God-blessed ministry. I feel as though we have one of the best churches in the Southern Baptist Convention. But what is the definition of a “good church”?

A discipling church can be defined as a group of people that has decided they will be involved in the replication of Jesus Christ on the earth. Discipleship can be defined, therefore, as the progressive learning of how to bring all life under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. The new year 2013 will put into motion on our campus the missing element of the Great Commission: the making and teaching of disciples.

It is my deepest prayer that we would become a disciple-making church by engaging in “Life on Life Discipleship” in 2013. Salvation did not end our journey...it only started it.

Three Things Required of the Church To Make Disciples:

1. Go
2. Baptize
3. Teach

Discipleship Essentials for 2013:

1. Maintain the proper attitude toward Christian growth.

Two things I want to be known for:

- A. Adding to the Christian quality of my church.
- B. Adding to the Christian quantity of my Church.

2. Maintain the proper priority toward the Great Commission.
3. Maintain the proper vision toward ministry.
4. Maintain the proper vision toward discipleship

Why Clements Exists:

1. To Worship God

Matthew 22:36-38 *"Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" Jesus said to him, 'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment."*

2. To Love Others

Matthew 22:39-40 *"And the second (worship was the first) is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."*

3. To Serve God

Matthew 20:26-28 *"But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; ²⁷ And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: ²⁸ Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many."*

4. To Make Disciples

Matthew 28:19-20 (NKJV) ¹⁹ *Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.*

Four personal priorities for 2013:

1. Personal **worship**
2. Personal **prayer**
3. Personal **evangelism**
4. Personal **discipleship**