

REDEMPTION CHURCH

Throwbacks | The Radical Way of Reformation

BIG POINT

There is need for reform, Scripture is the catalyst for reform, and we have an unyielding commitment to be a Scripture-based church.

REMINDER

Four basic tenants:

1. Church is not a product to consume, but to experience the presence of God.
2. The church is not a social club, but a family.
3. The church is not a building, but a body.
4. The church is not a business of paid professionals, but a body of equipped disciples.

2 Kings 23:1-3, 4

Then the king sent, and all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem were gathered to him. **2** And the king went up to the house of the Lord, and with him all the men of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem and the priests

This week in our series we look to 2 Kings 23:1-3.

In this passage, and all throughout Scripture, we are presented with steps forward for church reformation. We will look into 4 areas that we think are the next steps we need to take as a church.

Notes

Step 1

Remove & Reform: Remove product and performance-driven; reform to presence driven.

Key Passage: [2 Chronicles 6:12-21, 7:1](#)

Church Step: Simple but meaningful, Bible-based, and Jesus-centered.

Your Step: Prepare and engage.

Step 2

Remove and Reform: Remove social club community; reform with family-like devotion.

Key Passage: [Acts 2:42](#)

Church Step: Inviting, hospitality, and grace.

Your Step: Dinners, bible studies, break out of your circle.

Step 3

Remove and Reform: Remove big building and people budgets; reform with more money for impact and generosity.

Key Passage: [Matthew 6:19-21](#)

Church Step: G-E-T (generous, efficient & transparent)

Your Step: Create a consistent giving pattern.

2 Kings 23:1-3, 4 (cont)

and the prophets, all the people, both small and great. And he read in their hearing all the words of the Book of the Covenant that had been found in the house of the Lord. **3** And the king stood by the pillar and made a covenant before the Lord, to walk after the Lord and to keep his commandments and his testimonies and his statutes with all his heart and all his soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book. And all the people joined in the covenant. **4** And the king commanded Hilkiah the high priest and the priests of the second order and the keepers of the threshold to bring out of the temple of the Lord all the vessels made for Baal, for Asherah, and for all the host of heaven. He burned them outside Jerusalem in the fields of the Kidron and carried their ashes to Bethel.

2 Kings 23:21-22

21 And the king commanded all the people, "Keep the Passover to the Lord your God, as it is written in this Book of the Covenant." **22** For no such Passover had been kept since the days of the judges who judged Israel, or during all the days of the kings of Israel or of the kings of Judah.

Notes continued...:

Step 4

Remove and Reform: Remove the idea/practice of being cogs in a machine; reform with becoming partners in the Gospel.

Key Passage: [Ephesians 4:11-16](#)

Church Step: Develop partners.

Your Step: Grow and engage.

When church is at its' worst it is: full of gossip and slander, more about performance than presence, elevating the organization over the individual, more about growing the brand than growing the Kingdom void of Holy Spirit power, allowing selfish men and women at the helm, and it is moving towards division and dissension.

But...when church is at its' best: Jesus uses it to redeem lives, relationships, and our city, the hurting are being healed, the lost are being found, the city is being served, the presence of God shows up in power, Jesus is the head, there is unity within, the Kingdom is advancing, and a family on a mission is formed.

We have a choice...reform or repeat. Repeat what has gone on before, or reform into something new. Repeat tradition and follow culture, or reform to the original intentions of Scripture.

We can repeat, and perhaps even excel, at the church "game", or we can reform and experience the fullness of the power and presence of God's Holy Spirit.

This is our moment. Jesus is our head, the Spirit is our power, the Father is our protector, and the church is His Weapon. Will you make a covenant with us to see what Jesus wants to do with His church?