The Christian’s Mission - Chapter 4

Summer 2021 Worship Theme Schedule

Material taken from “The Christian’s Mission” by Rev. Richard Schultz CPH©1970

*(Suggestions and questions at the end of each* week *refer the reader to some Scripture readings that will add depth to the* message themes. They provide points of discussion in a group setting.)

1. On Mission in the Congregation
   * 1. Disillusionment with the Parish
     2. Using the Parish Effectively
     3. The Congregation Has Many Ministries and Ministers

# Bible Reading and Study

* + - 1. Read Colossians 1:1-14. Here St Paul is writing to a local congregation. The apostle is telling us what he heard about the Colossians and what he prays for them to become. Study the section carefully and list the characteristics and activities od a congregation that is good enough to be commended by St Paul:
      2. Read Matt 18: 15-20. This section discusses the mutual concern of Christians for one another. What factors in our society today hinder us from following the recommendations of this section?

What arrangements may a congregation make to improve the function of mutual admonition and concern.

How can we make it truly evangelical?

* + - 1. Read Galatians 3: 25-28. Are congregations today caught in the bands of social strata?

What steps might be taken to break down social exclusiveness in a congregation?

* + - 1. Read Jeremiah 7:2-11. Here Jeremiah fights against a religion divorced from action in life. In what ways would this complaint of Jeremiah be pertinent in our day?

How can we fulfill our God-intended purpose as a congregation instead of being enamored by a building and its external upkeep?

# Problems and Projects

1. Analyze your congregations membership. To what extent does it represent a single social level?

How can your church attract people of various levels?

1. Make a list of opportunities your congregation offers you to be of service to others - both directly to members and the community and indirectly through contributions of money.

**Thinking It Through For Myself**

1. Why should every congregation regularly examine its structure and identify and define its major and minor activities?
2. Is our parish giving almost exclusive attention to its own member and its self-preservation?
3. Am I too personally wrapped up in “operational” and “housekeeping” type of church work to assume more of the “essential work” of the church?
4. What essential Kingdom service will I undertake to contribute my part to my congregation’s chief mission?
5. Which of the six functions appeals to me the most?

For which am I especially equipped?

1. Why is my personal involvement essential if “the church is to be the church”?
2. Am I too shy about using my God-given talents?

Why must I personally make a decision for a specific service?

1. What advantages do I see in belonging to a fellowship club in the church?

What disadvantages?

1. When are even routine and menial tasks at home, work or church “spiritual”?
2. Did the chapter give me a fresh and challenging view of what my church under the Holy Spirit can become?