

“Modeling The Message Of The Master”

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Acts 1:8 (NKJV)

A number of years ago, during the Christmas season, I was lending my strength to my beloved brother and friend, Rev. Dr. Leon Kelly, founder and pastor of “Open Door Youth Gang Alternative” in Denver. We had gathered to give gifts to inner-city youth who were in need. On that occasion, I met a suburban pastor who was also lending his strength to the same cause. I would soon learn that what I had deemed to be a “chance” meeting was a part of God’s plan for me to come to know a brother in Christ who would become near and dear to my heart.

My newly found brother in Christ was Lutheran in his orientation. I was Baptist. He was white. I was black. As we moved beyond our “denominational” labels and external appearances, we soon learned that we each had a heart for advancing the cause of Christ. The rest is now history. We are brothers beloved walking together in Jesus Christ!

Allow me to introduce you to my beloved brother in the Lord, Pastor David Jensen. He is the Senior Pastor of The God’s Grace Community Church (GGCC) in Highlands Ranch, Colorado. GGCC meets at Rock Canyon High School on Sunday morning for Worship. However, their “kingdom focus” extends far beyond the boundaries of Highlands Ranch and the Greater Denver area. GGCC ministry and mission focus is rooted in Acts 1:8. As they go forward in life and faith, they have set their course to “Model The Message of The Master”.

As GGCC seeks to live into their faith in Jesus Christ, they have divided their ministry and mission focus into the same four areas set forth by Jesus Christ in Acts 1:8. “Jerusalem” is their local ministry focus. (Examples: Community Compassion; Meeting various needs of Mountain Vista High School, and more) “Judea” is their approach to regional ministry concerns. (Examples: The Gathering Place, Denver; Homeless Initiative, Denver; Families in need at Paris Elementary, Aurora and more) “Samaria” is their national ministry concerns. (Examples: Boys and Girls Club, Booneville, MS; Outreach assistance, Cortez, CO and more) And, “To the ends of the Earth” is their global approach to ministry. (Examples: Funding various missionary needs and organizations in Nicaragua and more) As one looks at the ministerial details for each area of GGCC’s ministerial focus, it is clear that they are striving to walk in lock step with the Lord.

At the heart of GGCC’s ministerial focus is that they are striving to be “the visible presence” of the Lord in the world in which they are called to serve Him!! GGCC is very intentional about living into their faith in Jesus Christ in ways that says they are “Modeling the Way of The Master”. God is using GGCC to speak into people’s lives both across town and around the world!!

There is a Christian song that resonates in my heart as I think about GGCC. I am not sure about the complete title, but part of the lyrics are as follow, "I want to give myself away so God can use me". That's true of GGCC!!

God has blessed GGCC with wonderful Christian partners to walk with them as they strive to "Model The Message of The Master". If GGCC can assist you in advancing the cause of Jesus Christ, do not hesitate to ask. Or, if you can lend your strength to GGCC in the cause of Jesus Christ, feel free to contact them.

You may contact Pastor David Jensen by e-mail at: david.jensen@godsgracecc.com

Submitted By:

Rev. Larron D. Jackson, DMin

Ministry and Mission Coach, Denver Cluster