WHY DOES RAYMOND ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH EXIST? WHO ARE WE? WHAT ARE WE ALL ABOUT?

RRBC is here for 5 purposes from Great Commandment (Matt 22:37-40) and Great Commission (Matt 28:19-20)

- "The purpose of Raymond Road Baptist Church is to help every person reach <u>MATURITY</u> in Christ. This purpose is to be accomplished
- by valuing and embracing MEMBERSHIP in God's Kingdom and in the church,
- by faithfully participating in such activities that MAGNIFY God,
- by actively engaging in MINISTRY for the benefit of others, and
- by answering God's call to join him in his MISSION of redemption."
- MAGNIFY Worship ("Love the Lord with all your heart")
- MINISTRY Ministry ("Love your neighbor as yourself")
- MISSION Evangelism ("Go and make disciples")
- MEMBERSHIP Fellowship ("Baptizing them")
- MATURITY Discipleship ("Teaching them to obey")

#### <u>MINISTRY</u>

## **INTRODUCTION**

- It is possible to provide Food to hungry, Water to thirsty, Teaching to ungodly, travel on Mission trips, and even Tithe when you find a dollar on ground...
- But NOT do ministry.
- It is possible to Love God, be Baptized, Attend church every single week, Read your Bible every single day...
- But NOT do ministry.
- It is possible to Stand for the truth of God in the public square, Calling for culture to change and turn back to God...
- But NOT do ministry.
- HOW IN HEAVEN'S NAME CAN WE TELL IF WE HAVE DONE MINISTRY THAT PLEASES THE LORD???

## LOVING GOD MUST ALSO RESULT IN LOVING PEOPLE, TOO.

- MATTHEW 22:39 -- LEVITICUS 19:18
- TEN COMMANDMENTS (Exodus 20:1-17)
- MICAH 6.8
- JESUS (Matt 10:42)
- EARLY CHURCH (Acts 2:43–45)

Matthew 22:39 (*Jesus gives the Great Commandments*) 39 "And a second is like it: You shall <u>love your neighbor</u> as yourself."

Matthew 22:39 is a quote from Leviticus 19:18.

Leviticus 19:9–18

9 "When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap your field right up to its edge, neither shall you gather the gleanings after your harvest. 10 And you shall not strip your vineyard bare, neither shall you gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard. You shall **leave them for the poor and for the sojourner**: I am the LORD your God.

11 "You shall <u>not steal</u>; you shall not deal falsely; you shall <u>not lie</u> to one another. 12 You shall not swear by my name falsely, and so profane the name of your God: I am the LORD.

13 "You shall <u>not oppress your neighbor or rob him</u>. The wages of a hired worker shall not remain with you all night until the morning. 14 You shall not curse the deaf or put a stumbling block before the blind, but you shall fear your God: I am the LORD.

15 "You shall do <u>no injustice in court</u>. You shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but <u>in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor</u>. 16 You shall <u>not</u> go around as a <u>slanderer</u> among your people, and you shall not stand up <u>against the life</u> <u>of your neighbor</u>: I am the LORD.

17 "You shall <u>not hate</u> your brother in your heart, but you <u>shall reason frankly</u> with your neighbor, lest you incur sin because of him. 18 You shall <u>not take vengeance or</u> <u>bear a grudge</u> against the sons of your own people,

but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD."

TEN COMMANDMENTS ALSO DIVIDE INTO TWO CATEGORIES OF LOVING GOD (COMMANDMENTS #1 - #4) AND LOVING YOUR NEIGHBOR (COMMANDMENTS #5 - #10)

Exodus 20:1-17 1 And God spoke all these words, saying, 2 "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

*(NUMBER ONE)* 3 "You shall have <u>no other gods before me</u>.

(NUMBER TWO)

4 "You shall <u>not make for yourself a carved image</u>, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. 5 You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, 6 but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

## (NUMBER THREE)

7 "You shall **not take the name of the LORD your God in vain**, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

## (NUMBER FOUR)

8 "<u>Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy</u>. 9 Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, 10 but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. 11 For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

## (NUMBER FIVE)

12 "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

*(NUMBER SIX)* 13 "You shall <u>not murder</u>.

*(NUMBER SEVEN)* 14 "You shall <u>not commit adultery</u>.

*(NUMBER EIGHT)* 15 "You shall <u>not steal</u>.

(NUMBER NINE)

16 "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

# (NUMBER TEN)

17 "You shall <u>not covet</u> your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's."

Micah 6:8 8 He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Matthew 10:42

(Jesus, about those who will help the 12 in their missionary efforts) 42 "And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward."

Acts 2:43–45 (THE EARLY CHURCH)

43 And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. 44 And all who believed were together and had all things in common. 45 And they were <u>selling their possessions</u> and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, <u>as any had need</u>.

## EVANGELISM WITHOUT MINISTRY IS HYPOCRISY... AND THE WORLD KNOWS IT!

1 John 4:19–21

19 <u>We love</u> because he first loved us. 20 If anyone <u>says</u>, "I love God," and <u>hates</u> his brother, he is a <u>liar</u>; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. 21 And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God <u>must also</u> love his brother.

Isaiah 1:11–17

11 "What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the LORD;

I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of well-fed beasts;

I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats.

12 "When you come to appear before me, who has required of you this trampling of my courts?

13 Bring no more vain offerings; incense is an abomination to me.

New moon and Sabbath and the calling of convocations – I cannot endure iniquity and solemn assembly.

14 Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hates;

they have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them.

15 When you spread out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not listen; your hands are full of blood.

16 Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes;

## cease to do evil,

17 learn to **do good**; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead **the widow's cause**.

James 1:27

27 Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit **<u>orphans</u> <u>and widows in their affliction</u>**, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

James 2:1-19

1 My brothers, <u>show no partiality</u> as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. 2 For if a man wearing <u>a gold ring and fine clothing</u> comes into your assembly, and <u>a poor man</u> in shabby clothing also comes in, 3 and if you pay attention

to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, "You sit here in a good place," while you say to the poor man, "You stand over there," or, "Sit down at my feet," 4 have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? 5 Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him? 6 But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? 7 Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called?

8 If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. 9 But **if you show partiality, you are committing sin** and are convicted by the law as transgressors. 10 For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it. 11 For he who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. 12 So speak and so act as those who are to be judged under the law of liberty. 13 For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

14 What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister is **poorly clothed** and lacking in **daily food**, 16 and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," **without giving** them the things needed for the body, what good is that? 17 So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is **dead**.

18 But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you **my faith by my works**. 19 You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder!

#### **MINISTRY WITHOUT EVANGELISM IS MERELY SOCIAL JUSTICE**

Sad story of U.S. Life-Saving Service Heritage Assoc. No lives are being rescued anymore!

Matthew 23:1-36 SEVEN WOES to Pharisees Make special note of Woes #4 and #5 and #6

(Do as they say, but NOT as they do.)

1 Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, 2 "The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat, 3 so do and <u>observe whatever they tell</u> you, but <u>not the works they do</u>. For <u>they preach, but do not practice</u>. 4 They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on people's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to move them with their finger. 5 They do all their deeds <u>to be seen</u> by others. For they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long, 6 and they love the place of honor at feasts and the best seats in the synagogues 7 and greetings in the marketplaces and being called rabbi by others. 8 But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brothers. 9 And call no man your father on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven. 10 Neither be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Christ. 11 The greatest among you shall be your <u>servant</u>. 12 Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and <u>whoever humbles himself</u> will be exalted.

- (WOE #1 Refuse to let others in a heaven they cannot themselves enter)
   13 "But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut the kingdom of heaven in people's faces. For you neither enter yourselves nor allow those who would enter to go in.
- (WOE #2 Travel far and wide to evangelize, only to make the convert's life worse) 15 Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you <u>travel across sea and</u> <u>land</u> to make <u>a single proselyte</u>, and when he becomes a proselyte, you make him twice as much <u>a child of hell</u> as yourselves.
- (WOE #3 Evil emphasis on gold and gifts)

16 "Woe to you, blind guides, who say, 'If anyone swears by <u>the temple</u>, it is nothing, but if anyone swears by <u>the gold</u> of the temple, he is bound by his oath.' 17 You blind fools! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that has made the gold sacred? 18 And you say, 'If anyone swears by the altar, it is nothing, but if anyone swears by the gift that is on the altar, he is bound by his oath.' 19 You blind men! For which is greater, the gift or the altar that makes the gift sacred? 20 So whoever swears by the altar swears by it and by everything on it. 21 And whoever swears by the temple swears by it and by him who dwells in it. 22 And whoever swears by heaven swears by the throne of God and by him who sits upon it.

- (WOE #4 Focus on the small at the expense of the more important)
   23 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you <u>tithe</u> mint and dill and cumin, and have <u>neglected</u> the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others.
   24 You blind guides, straining out a gnat and swallowing a camel!
- (WOE #5 Clean outside but unclean with sin inside)

25 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the **<u>outside</u>** of the cup and the plate, but **<u>inside</u>** they are full of **<u>greed</u>** and **<u>self-indulgence</u>**. 26 You blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and the plate, that the outside also may be clean.

(WOE #6 – Appearance of outward righteousness but inwardly dead in sin) 27 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which <u>outwardly</u> appear beautiful, but <u>within</u> are full of dead people's bones and all uncleanness. 28 So you also outwardly <u>appear righteous</u> to others, but within you are full of <u>hypocrisy and lawlessness</u>.

# (WOE #7 – Claim to be different than their angry forefathers but would soon enough show themselves to be the exact same)

29 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and decorate the monuments of the righteous, 30 saying, 'If we had lived in the days of our fathers, <u>we would not</u> have taken part with them in <u>shedding</u> <u>the blood of the prophets</u>.' 31 Thus you witness against yourselves that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. 32 Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers. 33 You serpents, you brood of vipers, how are you to escape being sentenced to hell? 34 Therefore <u>I send you</u> prophets and wise men and scribes, some of whom <u>you will kill and crucify</u>, and some <u>you will flog</u> in your synagogues <u>and persecute</u> from town to town, 35 so that on you may come all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah the son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar. 36 Truly, I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation."

## THE DID'S VS THE DID-NOT'S WOULD YOU FOR JESUS? THEN YOU SHOULD FOR "THROW-AWAY" PEOPLE.

Ever wonder why the homeless population at intersections so often have cardboard signs write "God bless you"? Because CHRISTIANS care!!!

Matthew 25:31-46

31 "When <u>the Son of Man</u> comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on <u>his glorious throne</u>. 32 Before him will be <u>gathered all the nations</u>, and he will <u>separate people</u> one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. 34 Then the King will say to those <u>on his right</u>, 'Come, you who are <u>blessed</u> by my Father, inherit the <u>kingdom</u> prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

• • •

41 "Then he will say to those <u>on his left</u>, 'Depart from me, you <u>cursed</u>, into the <u>eternal</u> <u>fire</u> prepared for the devil and his angels.

...

46 And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE???

SOME DID MINISTRY

35 For I was <u>hungry</u> and you gave me food,
I was <u>thirsty</u> and you gave me drink,
I was a <u>stranger</u> and you welcomed me,
36 I was <u>naked</u> and you clothed me,
I was <u>sick</u> and you visited me,
I was <u>in prison</u> and you came to me.'

37 Then the righteous will answer him, saying,
'Lord, <u>when did we see you</u> hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?
38 And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you?
39 And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?'
40 And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you.

as you did it to one of <u>the least of these</u> my brothers, **you did it to me**.'

SOME DID NO MINISTRY
42 For I was <u>hungry</u> and you gave me no food,
I was <u>thirsty</u> and you gave me no drink,
43 I was a <u>stranger</u> and you did not welcome me,
<u>naked</u> and you did not clothe me,
<u>sick</u> and in <u>prison</u> and you did not visit me.'

44 Then they also will answer, saying, 'Lord, **when** did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and <u>did not minister to you?</u>'

45 Then he will answer them, saying, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of <u>the least of these</u>, <u>you did not do it to me.'</u>