

**State of the Church**  
Matthew 22:37-40, 28:19-20  
Pastor Brian

1. Our Purpose:

We exist to **love God, love others, & make disciples.**

2. The **Great Commandment:**

**Matthew 22** <sup>37</sup> “You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind. <sup>38</sup> This is the first and greatest commandment. <sup>39</sup> A second is equally important: Love your neighbor as yourself. <sup>40</sup> The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.” (NLT)

3. The **Great Commission:**

**Matthew 28** <sup>19</sup> “Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. <sup>20</sup> Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” (NLT)

4. The **Five Purposes** of the Church:

1. “Love the Lord” = **Worship**
2. “Baptizing them” = **Fellowship**
3. “Teach these” = **Discipleship**
4. “Love your neighbor” = **Ministry**
5. “Go and make disciples” = **Evangelism**

**I. Why does the world need us to love God, love others, and make disciples?**

1. The world is becoming more **secular.**

**2 Timothy 3** <sup>1</sup> Mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. <sup>2</sup> People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, <sup>3</sup> without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, <sup>4</sup> treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God— <sup>5</sup> having a form of godliness but denying its power. (NIV)

2. When we love God, we show the world why the **church exists.**

**Matthew 4** <sup>10</sup> Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only. (NIV)

**Psalms 150** <sup>6</sup> Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. (NIV)

**Ephesians 2** <sup>19</sup> *You are members of God's very own family, citizens of God's country, and you belong in God's household with every other Christian. (TLB)*

3. When we love others, we **demonstrate** the character of Jesus.

**John 13** <sup>34</sup> *A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another. (NIV)*

**1 John 4** <sup>7</sup> *Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. (NLV)*

4. When we make disciples, we become **representatives** for Christ.

**2 Corinthians 5** <sup>20</sup> *We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. (NLV)*

**Colossians 1** <sup>28</sup> *So we continue to preach Christ to each person, using all wisdom to warn and to teach everyone, in order to bring each one into God's presence as a mature person in Christ. (NCV)*