

STATE OF THE CHURCH

State of the Church Sunday was a day to "Sing to the Lord" because of His "marvelous works." Almost three years ago, Pastor Nick laid "The Decade of Love" out before us – the vision for the next decade of our church and how we will reach our mission. As we heard Sunday, God is moving marvelously.

Discussion Questions:

1. Reflecting on all you heard about the "State of our Church," what encouraged you or stood out most?

Read Acts 6:1-7

2. The Book of Acts records testimony after testimony of rapid growth in the early days of the early church. (See Acts 2:41, 2:47, and 4:4.) Along with growth and its excitement, we can face "growing pains" of various kinds. How do we see this in Acts 6? What "growing pains" should we anticipate at Cross Church, considering all God is doing? Why should we be quick to identify our growing pains?
3. How did the apostles respond to the "growing pains" in Acts 6? What does it mean that everyone plays a part in the church's mission? What does it mean that management and mission are both essential to the church? How do we see this in Acts 6? Why is it easy to become more management-focused than mission-driven?
4. At Cross Church, reaching people drives us in all that we do. What does it mean that the mission matters more than our preferences, opinions, or comforts? In what ways could we be tempted to prioritize these above the mission? How can our preferences, opinions, and comforts hinder the mission and unity of the church?
5. Sunday, Pastor Nick said, "If we have full rooms but aren't reaching people with the gospel, we're not succeeding at the mission." What does this mean? What are the implications for you/your small group?
6. How has being engaged in the life of our church blessed you and encouraged your walk with Jesus? What could it look like for you to play a part in helping others experience these same blessings?
7. How might God be calling you to further engage in the work of God that is taking place in our church?



CALLED TO LEAD

SEPTEMBER 18