Sermon Date: Sunday, October 13



Legacy Sunday is a unique Sunday in the life of our church every year. On Legacy Sunday, we ask our church family to pray about bringing a special financial gift, above and beyond regular tithes, to forward the mission of the Decade of Love. The Decade of Love reveals a lot about the heart of our church. It is our ten-year strategy for how we're going about reaching Northwest Arkansas, America, and the world for Jesus Christ.

Key Passage: Acts 13:1-3

Discussion Questions:

1. What are the 'Four Lanes' of the Decade of Love? What encouraged you the most from Legacy Sunday?

<u>Legacy</u> – Leave a legacy of reaching the next generation and preparing the church for the future. <u>Obedience to Christ's commission</u> – Send out 50 missionaries and send 2,000 people on mission. <u>Vulnerable</u> – We want to be a church that loves the poor well in our community. Equip – We want to equip pastors and missionaries.

2. How does C.T. Studd's quote, "The light that shines the farthest shines the brightest at home," influence our missional approach as a church? Why is this strategy important?

This quote emphasizes that a solid local ministry must support effective global missions. Our ability to reach people globally cannot come at the expense of neglecting people locally.

3. What parallels exist between the church in Antioch (Acts 11-13) and the mission of our church today?

We want to follow the model of the church in Antioch, having a local and global vision for reaching people for Christ. Like Antioch, which sent Paul and Barnabas to spread the gospel, we are committed to reaching people locally and globally. We don't want an either/or approach but a both/and strategy. We aim to reach people locally while also sending out missionaries globally.

4. Why are we focused on the next generation through initiatives like student camp and C3 Send?

We believe that reaching the next generation is crucial to our mission to reach NWA, America, and the world for Christ. Through initiatives like student camp and C3 Send, we can provide opportunities for salvation, spiritual growth, and missional engagement, as well as affirm God's call on many lives to ministry or missions, helping the next generation to continue our church's mission.

5. What is the significance of our commitment to provide fully funded scholarships for our seminary students as we aim to launch God-called men and women into ministry in response to Matthew 9:37? How does this align with our mission in the Decade of Love?

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By providing fully funded scholarships for our seminary students, we can remove the financial barrier for those God has called into ministry. This aligns with our mission to equip and encourage pastors and missionaries, ensuring that more people can follow God in their calling without the burden of debt.

6. We have a lot of "challenges" as a church because God's favor is upon us. Why must we keep our missional vision and the Decade of Love on our hearts?

As God continues to draw many to our church, we face various "challenges" related to parking, traffic congestion, and space limitations. While we're exploring multiple solutions, such as purchasing more property or starting a second campus in Fayetteville, to accommodate the growth God is bringing, we hope there will always be some "growing pains" we have to navigate together.

7. What role does giving tithes and the annual Legacy Offering play in our church's ability to fulfill our mission and the Decade of Love?

Financial giving enables the church to move forward in each of the four lanes of love, such as church planting, mission trips, and various scholarships. Supporting the Decade of Love has allowed us to plant churches in London, Denver, Orlando, New York, and now our newest location.

8. How does the irony of Paul's relationship with the Antioch church emphasize the gospel's transformative power? What does this have to say about the gospel's power at work in our lives?

Paul, who once persecuted Christians, later became a key figure in the Antioch church and was sent out as a missionary by the same people he had once persecuted. This irony underscores the transformative power of the gospel, showing how someone can be radically changed and then used by God to advance His mission.

9. What about this study has challenged you most? What's your biggest takeaway?