

Spiritual Lessons About Congregational Growth

Wednesday Evening Message (October 3, 2012)

Sermon by Ray Reynolds

Text: Acts 9:31

Introduction: How often we hear news coverage of scandals and crimes in the news? What about in the church? What about among family members? People like to focus on the negative. Tonight, I just want us to think about some positive things. I see some of the same things that Luke saw in the early church, **Acts 9:31** says, “*Then the churches throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and were edified. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, they were multiplied.*” (NKJV) Let's spend some time thinking about the growth of the church....

Discussion:

I. Climate of Peace

I Corinthians 1:10, Ephesians 4:3

II. Consistent Personal Growth

Acts 2:42-47, Colossians 2:6-7

III. Compelling Spiritual Energy

**Hebrews 11:6, II Corinthians 5:7,
Ephesians 4:30, Ephesians 6:18**

IV. Continual Numerical Growth

Acts 1, 2, 5

V. Consuming Godly Focus

**Philippians 4:8, II Corinthians 7:1,
Ephesians 4:29**



Conclusion: In the face of all the problems in the church, we can become part of the solution. We need to follow the model of the NT church, cultivating the lifestyle of peace, spiritual growth and vitality, numerical growth, and godliness. Will you commit yourself to help build that type of church here? It has been said there are three kinds of people: those who make it happen, those who watch it happen, and those who wonder what happened. Will you commit to be a part of that first group?