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Center Point Baptist Church
“Strive To Advance This Church”
Church Covenant Sermon Series
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Intro. Many demands of us every day

We most often try to do our best

Why should we strive to advance this Church

Our promise to God

Our promise to the Church

Our honor

Because of the nature of the Church

I. The history and origin of the Church

A. God called out people even in the Old Testament days

1. Gave them the command to assemble
2. Told them where to assemble
3. Told them to bring the tithe and offerings
4. Told them to be a holy people
5. Told them to be a nation of priest

B. Christ called out a people Matt. 16: 13-19

C. Christ is the head of the Church Eph. 1:20-23

I Cor. 12:12-14

D. The Church is divine

1. Not perfect-never has been
2. Jesus set the example by supporting worship in His day

E. The Church is the most important thing we belong to

1. Its and honor to be a part of this divine institution
2. It deserves our best-----less is not acceptable

II. The purpose of the Church Matt. 28:19-20

A. To strengthen God's People

B. To reach out

1. Make disciples
2. Baptize them into the fellowship

C. To teach them

1. Learn through organized disciplined study
2. To teach them through example
3. We are to be the light of the world and the salt of the earth

III. The need of our world is great

A. More people on earth today than have ever been

B. Fewer Christians today – 1850-36% - 1900-11% - 1960-8 2/3% - 1980-7% - 1990-6 2/3 % - 2000-5 2/3%

C. Sin every where

C. We need revival like the Great Awakening

D. It will only come when Christians strive to advance Christ Church

IV. The promise we have made

A. To God to advance His Church

B. To each other to advance His Church

C. To be an honorable person we must

1. Attend – Heb. 10:25
2. Study – II. Tim. 2:15
3. Give attention to doctrine – 1 Tim. 4:16
4. Be in fellowship with the Church
5. Support the Church with
 - a. Tithes and offerings
 - b. Influence
 - c. Testimony
 - d. All this with love and zeal
6. To fail to advance this Church is like destroying ourselves
 - a. Only a mentally deranged person hates their own body
 - b. Only a spiritually deranged person hates the body of Christ (His Church)
7. Always build your Church up
 - Woman visited her neighbor 11 years and took a bulletin

Conclusion: Call for Christians to pledge more love and support of their Church.

Call for the lost to surrender their life to God and give their best to something eternal.