

## **Bundy Mission & Commitments – Part 3**

### **All of Life, All for Jesus**

#### **Ministry Commitments 5-7**

We have been working through a short series  
on our mission statement and ministry commitments  
This week will be our last of 3 weeks  
And as Clint mentioned last week  
It's a different style of sermon from what we normally do  
Instead of working through one passage verse by verse  
We will be jumping around to a number of different verses in the bible  
And as such there is always a risk of taking things out of context  
So make sure you test everything you hear from this pulpit  
Against the only authority – which is God's word  
The bible passages are in the outline that you can look up in your own time.  
Next week we will go back to the Old Testament with a series looking at Genesis 1-12

Let me pray  
I want to give you a quiz to see how well you've been brainwashed  
I'm going to show you some brands  
You're going to give me the slogans to go with the brand

Nike –  
KitKat –  
KFC –  
Red Bull –  
That shows me how well you've been disciplined by these companies  
Last one – how about this one?

Bundy –  
All of Life, All for Jesus  
That's what we've been talking about for the last two weeks  
The cynic in you might say that this whole thing that we're doing is just a branding exercise  
Just another organisation trying to establish a brand in order to get more market share  
Shouldn't we as a church just be on about teaching the bible  
And evangelism and discipleship  
And as Clint said last week  
Yes, we are committed to teaching the Bible,  
We're committed to evangelism and discipleship  
But that doesn't mean it's not helpful  
To have a simple and memorable way  
Of communicating to others what we as a church are on about  
"All of life, All for Jesus"

And that is just a memorable way of explaining our mission statement  
*To proclaim Christ  
in order to see people saved  
Follow Jesus,  
And live every area of life for him.*

And to go along with our mission statement

Are seven ministry commitments that we believe are crucial to carrying out that mission  
And you can find all of this in more detail on the church website under “About us”  
And last week Clint looked at the first four of those statements in more detail  
Proclaiming Jesus  
Praying  
Teaching/Applying the Bible  
And Loving

And today I’ll be looking at the last three  
Number 5. Training/equipping  
6. Relying on the Spirit  
And 7. Doing all for God’s glory while waiting for Jesus.

Now in order to unpack these statements  
I’m going to start with the Great Commission of Jesus from the end of Matthew’s gospel  
And we will also jump to other verses from there.

**Let’s have a look at statement 5 - Training and equipping people to live for Jesus in all of life.**

A number of years ago I was invited to preach at another church in Melbourne  
And I was told that I was just meant to be preaching  
But when I got there about 30 minutes before the service,  
I was told that I was also to lead the singing  
Lead the prayers  
Pray after the offering  
And shake people’s hands at the door as they left.  
And as I reflected on that experience  
I realised that for this particular church  
The Sunday service was a bit like riding on one of those bus tours  
And the pastor was the tour guide  
Each week the congregation would go on a scenic tour  
The pastor would point on some nice things to look at  
And everyone else on the bus enjoyed a cup of tea on their ride  
And then they came back the next week to do it all again  
Is this what church is meant to be like – a bus tour?  
One driver, lots of passengers.

In Matthew 28, Jesus said to his eleven remaining disciples.  
<sup>19</sup> Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father  
and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe everything I have  
commanded you.

In spite of the immense power of Jesus  
Jesus did not do everything himself  
Jesus appointed disciples, he trained them and sent them to heal, drive out demons  
And teach others about his kingdom  
And then when Jesus left the disciples and ascended into heaven  
He told them to make other disciples of Jesus. How?  
By teaching others to follow everything that Jesus taught them.  
In other words to train them

Now how did Christianity go from the eleven two thousand years ago  
To a worldwide movement of billions  
Where even here in Australia there are people who follow Jesus in 2026?  
How? An ongoing commitment to training others  
When Jesus said "Make Disciples"  
It was not to stop the generation after the disciples.  
No the gospel was to pass on from one generation to the next

This is the apostle Paul to Timothy whom he left at Ephesus  
to appoint elders and to build up that church and protect it from false teaching  
2 Timothy 2  
You, therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup> What you have heard  
from me in the presence of many witnesses, commit to faithful men who will be able to  
teach others also.

Here is Paul passing on the gospel baton to Timothy  
But he urges Timothy to pass on the gospel baton to others  
Who in turn can also pass on the gospel to others and so on  
It's not a bus tour is it? It's a relay race.

So when Jesus says "make disciples"  
He's actually saying "Make disciple makers"  
We need a mindset of training others  
Who will one day train others and so on  
Now how are we doing that at Bundy?

At Bundy we are so committed to training  
That we are paying Helen to be the Director of Training  
And for the next two years we are so committed to training  
That we put money towards a traineeship for Lizzy  
Training box ticked  
But training is not something we outsource to a few people in the church  
It's not Helen's job to do all the training in the church  
It's all of our responsibility  
Listen to this command in Deuteronomy 6

<sup>5</sup> You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your  
might. <sup>6</sup> These words that I am giving you today are to be in your heart.  
Here's the bit about training  
<sup>7</sup> Repeat them to your children. Talk about them when you sit in your house and when you  
walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Can you see the all of life training there?  
Seize every opportunity to teach your children about God  
When you do school drop off  
When you cook breakfast  
When they have a good day or a bad day  
When you do GSF  
When you do VCYC  
Help them to see God in everything  
And to love God *with* everything

Now primarily that is a Christian parent's responsibility  
But as with Sunday School and Youth Group  
As a church we partner with parents to do this  
And if you see the number of young adults serving at VCYC this year  
Many of them grew up in Sunday School and Youth Group  
And see the value of passing the gospel baton on to those younger than them  
And they are willing to be trained to serve.  
But it's not just children and youth  
All of us have a role in being equipped to serve  
Listen to Paul in Ephesians 4

<sup>11</sup> And he himself (that is Jesus) gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup> to equip the saints for the work of ministry, to build up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup> until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of God's Son, growing into maturity with a stature measured by Christ's fullness.

According to Paul, those who do ministries of the word  
Like pastoring and teaching  
Have a role of equipping others to serve  
But for the health of the body of Christ  
Everyone needs to be equipped in the word  
To carry out their works of ministry  
In order to help us mature in Christ

Church is not a bus tour  
It's an orchestra where everyone must play their part  
And the conductor equips everyone to play together  
To bring a beautiful sound  
The church is not full of passengers or spectators but participants

One of the clearest examples to me of this happened about 15 years ago  
When we started planning the building of this current auditorium we now meet in  
Many church building projects destroy relationships and divide churches  
But at the outset, our senior pastor Neil made a commitment  
That our pastors would not micromanage the building project  
But entrust that to our building committee  
The pastors would stay focussed on preaching God's word and praying  
And in doing this, others in the church were equipped to use their gifts  
All for the same purpose and that was one day to have a building  
Where we could take every opportunity to proclaim Jesus  
Those with architecture gifts  
Trade gifts like plumbing and carpentry  
Technical gifts like heating, cooling or audio visual expertise  
People with project management and property development gifts  
Those with legal skills  
All of these gifts, grounded and trained by the teaching of God's word  
It was a beautiful thing to behold.  
But training is not just for here is it.  
We have to look beyond our backyard.

The person circled in that picture is Aaron Landreth

With his church Aura Presbyterian in Caloundra  
And for 11 years Aaron and his wife Hannah were part of Bundy  
Aaron led a music team for many years with Hannah also serving in music  
And then when they moved to the Sunshine Coast with their kids  
Aaron took on the role of music co-ordination for Aura Church  
He does at Aura, what I do here at Bundy but on a volunteer basis  
He chooses music that is grounded in Scripture  
He identifies people to serve in music  
He finds the right teams for people to serve in  
He trains and encourages people in their music ministry  
And even though I didn't do a particularly great job training Aaron while he was at Bundy  
The things he was trained in here are helping him do a great job up there in Aura.

Last night I spoke to Josh Kingsford  
Who came to Bundy when he was in high school  
Who served for many years at Bundy in Sunday School and PA at 5pm  
Last year he got married and now lives in Sydney  
And is now co-ordinating PA at Captivate Presbyterian Church  
Where he trains others in PA  
So people can hear and sing the gospel  
The only way Josh could do that  
Was because he was trained here

Now Lord willing, Bundy might plant a church within the next couple of years  
And if so, the question for me is who can I train now?

Who might coordinate music for that church?  
Could we send two or more music teams to help that church plant start well?  
And if so, who am I training now, so that they will be ready then?  
That's a great question for all of us who are leaders and co-ordinators here to ask ourselves  
Who can I train?  
Who might lead this growth group next year?  
Who can I train to serve alongside me in the kitchen?  
Who can I train who might one day replace me on PA and AV?  
Who can I train who might be willing to go and serve Jesus somewhere else?  
Maybe even overseas in cross cultural mission  
A disciple making mindset, is a training mindset.

Here's another question that all of us can ask ourselves.  
How can I be trained to serve Jesus better?  
That might be knowing the bible  
That might be trying a new ministry  
That might be approaching someone to disciple you  
That might be getting help to work on a particular area of godliness

Training is vital in living all of life, all for Jesus.

### **Commitment 6. Relying on the Spirit of God so we can be made more like Jesus**

You know if you're really cynical  
All of this talk of mission statements and church planting  
It sounds like Bundy is becoming a franchise

Like McDonalds franchising  
You make a product that people want  
You find the winning formula  
And then you replicate the brand all over the suburbs  
Is that what we're trying to do here except with church?  
Is that the key to success?

I hear the words of Jesus ringing in my ears.

John 15

The one who remains in me and I in him produces much fruit, because you can do nothing without me.

Hear that again

*You can do nothing without me.*

The key to success is not a winning formula

It's to remain in and rely on Jesus.

We are inherently weak.

Before Jesus gave the disciples the great commission this is how Matthew describes them

Verse 16

<sup>16</sup> The eleven disciples travelled to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had directed them.

<sup>17</sup> When they saw him, they worshipped. but some doubted.....

I love than honesty.

Some of the disciples still doubted Jesus

Not complete unbelief

But they were dazed and overwhelmed

They were still trying to make sense of the resurrected Jesus

The disciples are not an elite tactical unit ready to take the gospel to the world

These are very imperfect, weak people

4 fishermen, a tax collector, a political revolutionary included amongst them

And Jesus will build his kingdom through people like this.

When I first came to this church

30 years ago

We had about 40 people meeting at the YMCA in Macleod

In a meeting room that we rented

We've grown a lot since then

Fast forward to last Sunday we recorded an attendance of 518 people over three services

Now that's not that big in some denominations

But in the Pressie church

That makes us one of, if not the largest Presbyterian church in Victoria

But let me put that into perspective.

Here in Bundoora we sit between two councils

Darebin council which has 162,500 people

And Whittlesea council which has 253,200 people

Combined that is over 415,000 people

Most of those people are facing an eternity in hell without Jesus

Bundy would have to plant hundreds of churches

to have any hope of reaching that many people

Feeling dazed and overwhelmed

Feeling weak and imperfect.

Good because like the disciples  
We need Jesus.

Back in Matthew 28

When some of the disciples are still in this state of doubt  
Jesus gave them the great commission to make disciples everywhere  
Which must have been even more overwhelming for the disciples  
And then Jesus makes the great promise  
A beautiful promise in verse 20  
And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age

How reassuring is that.

Jesus is not going to leave them after giving them this massive task.

And then you know what happened.

Jesus left them.

He ascended into heaven

Hang on didn't you say you would always be with us?

How does this work.

Acts chapter 1 verse 7

<sup>7</sup> Jesus said to disciples, "It is not for you to know times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. Here's the key bit <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Jesus will be present with his disciples through the Holy Spirit

In fact, through the Spirit, Jesus will empower these weak and imperfect disciples

To be his powerful witnesses in all the earth

Jesus had already prepared the disciples for the Holy Spirit

This is what he taught them the night before he died on the cross

John 16

<sup>13</sup> When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth. For he will not speak on his own, but he will speak whatever he hears. He will also declare to you what is to come. <sup>14</sup> He will glorify me, because he will take from what is mine and declare it to you. <sup>15</sup> Everything the Father has is mine. This is why I told you that he takes from what is mine and will declare it to you.

Jesus is saying, that the primary work of the Holy Spirit

Is to point people to Jesus

To take Jesus' teaching and bring it home into the hearts and lives of his followers

A Spirit led person is a Christ-centred person

A Spirit led church is a Christ-centred church

And so if we want to be a fruitful church, a successful church in God's eyes

Not our own

We need to rely on the Spirit

By remaining in Jesus

<sup>4</sup> Remain in me, and I in you. Just as a branch is unable to produce fruit by itself unless it remains on the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me. <sup>5</sup> I am the vine; you are the

branches. The one who remains in me and I in him produces much fruit, because you can do nothing without me.

Jesus goes onto say that we remain in Jesus  
By remaining in his love by keeping his commands  
Trusting Jesus and obeying Jesus out of love for him and others  
That is the key to fruitfulness individually and as a church  
The key is not in our branding, our strategy  
It's not our mission statements  
Our social media presence  
Our music  
Our training  
Our engaging preachers  
We produce fruit by relying on the Holy Spirit  
Staying true to Jesus' words  
Turning from sin  
Trusting him for our salvation  
Obeying his commands  
Loving Jesus and loving like Jesus  
In this way, the Spirit will make us more like Jesus if we remain in him

A spirit led, Christ-centred church  
Is like a sailboat with a spinnaker full of wind  
You still have to point the tiller and trim the sail  
But a church that remains in Christ will be carried along by the power of the Holy Spirit  
On the other hand  
A church busy with programs  
Relying on man-made strategy  
Engaging speakers  
Well produced videos  
And high-level music  
If done without Christ  
Is like a floundering sail-boat  
Paddling furiously without the power of the Spirit of God

And so the question is will we believe our own hype?  
Or will we rely on the Spirit by remaining in Jesus?  
We might well make plans to plant a church but will we say, Lord willing to those plans?  
Or will we just do it in our own strength?  
Relying on our own wisdom and not seek God for His wisdom.  
Will we pray or just do it ourselves?  
Every month, we pause our growth groups  
in the week that we have our monthly prayer meeting  
To encourage more people to meet together and pray  
Prayer is not lip-service but it continues to be an act of reliance on the Spirit of God

All of life, All for Jesus is not just doing things for Jesus  
But remaining in Him, relying on the Spirit to make us more like Jesus.

**Commitment 7. Doing all things for the glory of God while actively waiting for the return of Jesus.**

I wanted to do a thought experiment

Can you come up with a 3 word summary of the whole message of the Bible.

If you had to communicate this to someone who wasn't familiar with the bible

But you only had three words

What would they be?

Maybe those who love biblical theology would say

Creation – Fall – Redemption

God saves sinners

This is what AI came up with

You can choose your own

But this is my 3 word summary of the Bible

Jesus is Lord

This is the culmination of where everything in history is going

This is the climax of the whole story of the Bible

Jesus is Lord.

And before Jesus gave the great commission to his disciples

He gave them the great foundation in verse 18

<sup>18</sup> Jesus came near and said to them, "All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. <sup>19</sup> Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations,

All authority has been given to me

In other words

Jesus is Lord

And because Jesus is Lord

He has every authority to be worshipped by his disciples

So go make more of them

The apostle Paul says in Philippians 2

That because Jesus is Lord

One day upon his return

every knee will bow—

in heaven and on earth

and under the earth—

<sup>11</sup> and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Those who are Jesus' disciples will willingly worship Jesus

But those who are not will be compelled by the sheer majesty of Jesus to give him glory

Jesus himself reminds us of the reality of judgement to come

Because he is Lord.

John 15 verse 6

<sup>6</sup> If anyone does not remain in me, he is thrown aside like a branch and he withers. They gather them, throw them into the fire, and they are burned. <sup>7</sup> If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you want and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> My Father is glorified by this: that you produce much fruit and prove to be my disciples.

Because Jesus is Lord

He has the right to judge

And the choice is between fire or fruitfulness  
Branches that produce fruit by remaining in Jesus  
Glorify God the Father  
And spend eternity with him  
Branches that do not remain in Christ  
Are fruitless and therefore destined for eternal fire  
When Jesus returns to judge the world  
The heart of Jesus the Son  
And God the Father is for fruitful branches  
This is what glorifies God.

My ideal church size about 120 people  
That is about the size where I feel that I could know everyone  
Especially as a pastor  
A size that still feels like a family  
When Bundy passed the 300 mark I started to feel overwhelmed  
Most Sundays here I feel overwhelmed  
By the end of the third service on a Sunday I'm tired  
And It's impossible for me to know 500 people  
I can't get round to everyone  
There are people here I have never met  
There are people I haven't spoken to in too long  
And now the thought of planting a church is even more overwhelming

But here's the thing right  
Because Jesus is Lord  
I'm so glad that Bundy has grown year after year  
Not for my sake but for Jesus' sake  
Because Jesus is Lord  
I am so thankful we have seen many adults and young people confess their faith in Jesus  
And get baptised  
I'm so thankful that we have sent people to proclaim Jesus to other nations in the world  
And also in other parts of Australia  
I am so thankful that we sent people to plant churches in Darebin and Donnybrook  
And by God's grace both these churches are growing  
And more people are now disciples of Jesus  
And Lord willing, if we plant again  
Even though I will be sad to say goodbye to people I love  
People I have enjoyed serving with  
I will be glad because Jesus deserves more glory  
As more people follow him as Saviour and Lord

Let me ask you this one last question  
What is your Jesus reason?  
Over the years here at Bundy  
When I have felt resentment, envy, grief  
When I have felt impatient, tired, burnt out  
The thing that has kept me going is the Jesus reason  
If no one else recognized me, would I still do it for Jesus?  
If this path is costly, will I still follow for Jesus' sake?  
Will I say no to this sin because it grieves Jesus?

Will I choose a job here, buy a house there because of Jesus?  
Will I say no to this job, will I give up buying a house, because of Jesus?  
Will I stay at Bundy, or join in a church plant, either way for the glory of Jesus?  
No other reason will sustain you  
No other reason will bear lasting fruit  
Except the Jesus reason – sheer thankfulness for your Saviour  
And a commitment to serving Him as Lord  
And to share in His glory when he returns  
I hope you find a Jesus reason for everything that you do.

A few weeks ago when Clint began this series  
He said some nice things about me and Emma.  
Which we were quite humbled by as we listened to his sermon in the car  
This week I found this photo  
It's Clint and I in 2001 – 25 years ago  
And we were serving alongside each other at the Bundy Picnic  
I think we were both Ministry trainees at the time like Lizzy is now  
Three things I thought when I saw that picture  
Clint is less gray of hair  
And I was less stout of stomach  
Maybe we need to train others to organize the church picnic after 25 years  
Here's the thing I felt  
It was a joy to serve alongside Clint in the gospel all those years ago  
And it continues to be a joy to serve alongside him now  
But it continues to be my joy to serve Jesus alongside all of you  
Let's keep going  
All of Life, All for Jesus