



VIBRANT CHURCH

Part 6: What Does a Vibrant Church Look Like in the 21st Century?

**October 24, 2010 * Bethel Baptist Church * Tim Davis
Ephesians 4:12-16**

The Three Greats of Bethel

Love God. (The Greatest Commandment)

Love People. (The 2nd Greatest Commandment)

Change the World. (The Great Commission)

The 5 Purposes of Bethel

Worship, Fellowship, Discipleship, Ministry, Evangelism

We must appear vibrant, because we are...

1. ALIVE. vv.12-16

Living

*“the body of Christ,” growing, “body”
“ligaments” “joints” Christ the “Head”*

Growing

*“being built up” “builds itself up” “grow up”
(Luke 2:52)*

Mature

*“reach unity” “become mature” “attaining the
whole measure of the fullness of Christ” “God’s
people for works of service” “each part does its
work”*

Producing Fruit – Ps. 1:2-3; Matt. 7:15-20

How do other see life – the life of Christ in you?

2. ACTIVE. vv.12-16

Not just activity:

Activity without direction can just be drowning.

Activity without purpose can just be going in circles.

*Activity without a goal is just exhausting &
disheartening.*

*When you go with the flow, you always end up at the
bottom.*

We must row into the wind – go against the flow.

Mark 6:47-51

We must get out of the nursery & into the navy!

*We must stop sucking on the pacifiers of laziness, &
start sailing the “Pacifics” of life!*

*So many people are devoted to their company, but
not to the Kingdom.*

*Stop living for materialism, & start living for the
Master!*

*It’s all going to burn up. It’s all for nothing, unless it’s
all for Jesus!*

*When others look at your life, do they see inactivity,
over-activity, or purposeful/directional activity?*

3. ADVANCING, ASSAILING, ATTACKING, ASSAULTING. v.15

Matthew 16:18

*In your life, are you taking ground away from satan? Are you
winning battles against satanic footholds & strongholds? Do
others see you as a spiritual warrior or wimp? What about
our church? Is our church known in the community as a
church with supernatural faith? Are we seen as a beacon in
darkness? Are we rescuing sinners from the grip of satan?*

*In your Christian life, are you losing ground, holding ground,
or taking ground?*

A vibrant church is composed of vibrant Christians.

*Ultimately, the church must look like Christ! We are to be
conformed to His image – just like Jesus.*