

JANUARY 8, 2017 SERMON NOTES

I. How are we measuring up to the two Great Commandments?

A. Loving God.

Matthew 22: ³⁴ *But when the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered themselves together.* ³⁵ *One of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question, testing Him,* ³⁶ *“Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?”* ³⁷ *And He said to him, ““You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.”* ³⁸ *This is the great and foremost commandment...”*

Attendance: 159 (2015)
____ (2016)

Connections: 4 baptism and 2 transfers (2015)
____ baptisms and ____ transfers (2016)

Stewardship - General Fund: \$384,656.00 (2015)
\$351,653.69 (2016)

Foreign Missions:

Casas por Cristo – Jason Laffan leads mission trips to Mexico, Guatemala and Dominion Republic. In just one week teams transform an otherwise empty lot into a safe and secure home - complete with cement foundation, electricity, windows and doors. As a result of this experience, each family receives a tangible symbol of the faithfulness and unconditional love of Jesus Christ.

Mid-India Christian Mission – Vivek Lall is the lead missionary. *HIS Children* - A transformative program for over 120 children with disabilities, many of whom have been victims of severe neglect. *HIS Sowers* - A Gospel sharing and church growth ministry in a predominantly Hindu and Muslim nation. *Other Outreaches* - Women's Skill Center, Light House Translation, Disaster Relief.

State Missions:

Christian City, Atlanta, Ga. (1) *The Children's Village* at Christian City has been ministering to children of abuse, neglect, and abandonment for almost 50 years. We care for their physical, emotional, and spiritual needs. (2) *Christian City* is a Christian community offering a full continuum of senior care and services. We are one of the largest senior care providers in the state of Georgia! (3) *Independent Active Living* in Senior Life Patio Homes as well as award-winning HUD housing.

Woodland Christian Camp and Retreat, Temple, GA provides summer camps and retreat for youth as well as families.

B. Loving People in our community.

Matthew 22: ³⁹ *The second is like it, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’* ⁴⁰ *On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets.”*

Christmas Ministries:

Food for food boxes given out at Christmas by Perry Volunteer Outreach.

Christmas Stocking Project - Christmas Stocking Project is for the inner city children in Brooklyn, NY. This ministry makes the stockings and fills them with candy and gifts.

Family Promise of Greater Houston County ministers to homeless families by providing shelter, meals, encouragement and help in securing a permanent residence. This is done in cooperation with other churches in middle Ga.

Other Ministries:

First Family Share – \$5,000.00 to help people in need. You were the arms and legs of God ministering to people. They were needs you were aware that needed help and you provide that help through labor or financial assistance.

Loaves and Fishes is an area food bank that receives support from us each year. Some of you volunteer there to help with labor as well. This ministry provides food for those struggling.

Local Benevolence -- We have a benevolence fund that helps with food, shelter, gasoline, medical, counseling or whatever the need.

Love Bear Ministry – provides bears for Perry Hospital for kids that go to the emergency room, when they have to get blood drawn or go into surgery.

Perry Volunteer Outreach – Perry Volunteer Outreach is a non-profit charity established in 2000 to assist those in the Perry and south Houston County, Georgia area with emergency financial assistance for housing, utilities, and medical needs. Over the years our ministries have expanded into offering transportation to medical and social service appointments - a used furniture and appliance ministry - a home repair ministry - a weekly BINGO day for area senior citizens - Christmas celebrations, food boxes and toys programs - and offering spiritual and financial guidance.

God has _____ for ministry!