

"Ordination Service"

Acts 13:1-3

February 10, 2019

Acts 13:1-3 (ESV) Barnabas and Saul Sent Off, Now there were in the church at Antioch prophets and teachers, Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a lifelong friend of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. 2 While they were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." 3 Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.

Introduction

3 years ago we found ourselves being in the position of having only one active elder

At that time a group of men began to faithfully meet with me and were faithful to do so for 3 years

The goal of that meeting was to give me their ear and their guidance as I served as the only "active" elder

One of the goals was that God would call out other men qualified and willing to serve as an elder

This morning in this service we will see the some of the fruit of those meetings

Just as the church in the past needed elders the church today needs elders

This morning we will look at the charge of the pastor, elder and the church

Pastor: We are assembled in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, at the request of this church that we may set aside and ordain Tom Byrd to the office of elder.

A. My charge!

Going forward what am I mandated to do?

Matthew 22:37-39 (ESV) 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 first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

Revelation 2:1, 4-5 (ESV) "To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: 'The words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands.

4-5 But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. 5 Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent.

1 John 2:15-17 (KJV) Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶ For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. ¹⁷ And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

To keep loving God more and the world less
To take His Word serious in regard to my love for Him

2 Chronicles 20:33 (NLT) During his reign, however, he failed to remove all the pagan shrines, and the people never fully committed themselves to follow the God of their ancestors.

To know what the temptations of the church have been for centuries

Idols and the world and to keep on attacking these temptations in my life and in the church

Be leaders, teachers and people fully committed to following Jesus Christ...

Living daily for His glory, radically obedient to His commands, striving to love Him more and the world less each day while working with others in the local church to advance God's Kingdom!

Revelation 2:14-16 (ESV) But I have a few things against you: you have some there who hold the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, so that they might eat food sacrificed to idols and practice sexual immorality. ¹⁵ So also you have some who hold the teaching of the Nicolaitans. ¹⁶ Therefore repent. If not, I will come to you soon and war against them with the sword of my mouth.

Acts 15.29 Idols, blood and sexual immorality

Idols, blood and sexual immorality

Jeremiah 23:21-22 (NLT) "I have not sent these prophets, yet they run around claiming to speak for me. I have given them no message, yet they go on prophesying. ²² If they had stood before me and listened to me, they would have spoken my words, and they would have turned my people from their evil ways and deeds.

To stay in the Word and spend time with the Lord in prayer that my preaching and teaching might be effective

B. Tom's charge and of course my charge!

Exodus 28:1-4 (ESV) "Then bring near to you Aaron your brother, and his sons with him, from among the people of Israel, to serve me as priests—Aaron and Aaron's sons, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar. ² And you shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, for glory and for beauty.³ You shall speak to all the skillful, whom I have filled with a spirit of skill, that they make Aaron's garments to consecrate him for my priesthood. ⁴ These are the garments that they shall make: a breastpiece, an ephod, a robe, a coat of checker work, a turban, and a sash. They shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother and his sons to serve me as priests."

1 Corinthians 15:58 (ESV) Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

Know without a doubt who we are working for
Know without a doubt who we are to please

Know without a doubt that even yet we serve at the pleasure of the people

2 Timothy 4:1-5 (ESV) I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: 2 preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. 3 For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, 4 and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. 5 As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

Preach the Word

Reprove, rebuke, exhort with patience and good teaching and with perseverance

Isaiah 58:1 (ESV) "Cry aloud; do not hold back; lift up your voice like a trumpet; declare to my people their transgression, to the house of Jacob their sins.

Know that your message is important and proclaim it loudly and boldly

Ephesians 4:12 Equip the saints for the work of ministry.

Equip the saints to do the work of the ministry in the home, in the church and in the world

Acts 6:4 (ESV) "But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word."

We are to be men of prayer and ministry of the Word all the while spending much time in both

C. The church's charge!

Acts 2:42-47 (ESV) And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. 43 And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. 44 And all who believed were together and had all things in common. 45 And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. 46 And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Be the church: devote yourself to the study and teaching and preaching, be a "part" of the fellowship, of what is going on, give up your individual desires and rights for the betterment of the body, be regular in attending services and special events, that we might be witnesses to the world

Ephesians 6:18-20 (ESV) Praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints,¹⁹ and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the

gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

Pray for one another and pray for your leaders and that they would proclaim the gospel fearlessly

Hebrew 13:7 (ESV) Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.

1 Corinthians 11:1 (ESV) Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

Do not follow anyone that is not following Christ

Do not follow anyone unless they are preaching and teaching God's Word and living in radical obedience to His Word

Again, watch Tom and I, watch our teachers and worship leaders, are they living for God's Glory, being radically obedient to His commands, striving to love Him with all their hearts, souls and minds and working in the church to advance His Kingdom?

If we are then following us!

Hebrews 13:17 (ESV) Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

Obey and submit to those watching over your souls
Do not make their work difficult but be devoted to the Lord and His church and participate in the work and make their job a joy

Summary

Let us pray for one another and support one another as we serve God and this local church

Let us this morning together and every day make this commitment to the Lord: "Today O God let me live for Your Glory, let me live in radical obedience to Your commands, let me strive to love You, O God, with all my heart, soul and mind and use me in Your church to advance Your Kingdom!

Matthew 6:33 (ESV) But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.