

# Let's Build a Church

## Proverbs 13:22

**22 A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children:**

Of all the things that a man or woman could build in their lifetime, I can think of no greater than a church.

Of all the great causes in the world, whether it is to cure cancer or to feed the homeless, I can think of no greater cause than the Church.

When I drive through a city and look at all the edifices that have been built in that city through the years, I can't help but notice first the beautiful churches.

- Some are huge, some are small.
- Some are elaborate, others are plain.

Yet, each of them serves as a witness of the grace of God and a testimony to the dark forces in its community that Jesus Christ is worshiped there.

These churches represent to me the faith of not only the people who currently attend those churches, but more importantly the faith of those who probably are no longer living.

- You see, that big beautiful church was probably not built yesterday.
- Those high steeples were not raised last week.
- The funds to create what you are looking at may have been raised by people from a previous generation.
- Somebody's fathers and mothers worked to build that church.

- Somebodies Grandparents sacrificed and labored to build the foundation of a church that would later be built upon by the next generation.
- You see “A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children”

I can think of no greater inheritance to leave my children's children than the Church.

I can think of no greater blessing I could offer to those would come after me than the Church.

- An inheritance you see is more than money or houses.
- An inheritance is a way of life.
- A inheritance is a faith in God.
- An inheritance is a relationship with Jesus Christ.

You see, your money will fail you.  
Your houses will fall down.

- But a faith that is in Jesus Christ will stand the test of time.

For you see, a church is not only a building.  
It is not only a steeple or a church on a hill.

- God's church is made up of people.
- Each member particular and unique.
- Each member necessary for that church's continuance and growth.

When I look around this building today, I see people who may have been in the church for many years, but guess what... they are only here because of the sacrifices and prayers of people who may not even be alive anymore.

Sure Mike Humphrey was the one who invited me to church.

- But who was the one who invited his father to church?
- And who was the one who encouraged that person to attend?
- Somebody built a foundation in someone's life you see.
- This all did not happen last night or last week.

Many of the men and women who shaped my life and ministry are no longer alive today.

- SG Norris has been dead for almost 25 years now, but his influence in my ministry is still blessing me today.
- My earliest memory is that of my grandmother praying at my bedside. It was her prayers that led to a call of God upon my life.
- Somebody built a church in my life.
- Somebody laid a foundation.
- Somebody built some walls.

**I'm only here because someone said, "I'm going to build a church."**

- They built it with prayer.
- They built it with dedication.
- They built it with work.
- They built it with worship.
- They built it with sacrifices.
- They built it with their giving.
- They built it with their love for God.
- And they built it with their love for the Lost.

Somebody built a church.

- I found it at the age of 15 in Ziegler IL.
- It wasn't pretty to look at.
- The music was not very professional
- But the worship was real

- The preaching was anointed
- And after just one visit to that Apostolic church, my life has never been the same.

Somebody built a church.

- I found it again at the age of 17.
- I thought I had lost it when I moved up North.
- But there it was in all its glory.
- It was not on a hill.
- It was not made of elaborate stonework.
- It had no marble and no gold platings.
- But there it was on Mulberry and Russell.

Somebody built a church.

- It had Worship.
- It had Preaching.
- It had anointing.
- It had the moving of God's Spirit.
- And at the age of 17, it changed my life.

**Romans 14:17**<sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub> For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

- I don't know about you, but I love worshipping Him.
- I'm not ashamed to say to you or anyone else that knowing Jesus Christ is the best thing that ever happened to my life and I love worshipping Him.
- I understand that the more I worship Him, the more He enters into my situation.
- I've learned that no matter where I am.
- No matter what is going on in my life.
- No matter what Hell is throwing against me.

- **I can build a church.**
- I can lay a foundation of prayer.
- I can build up some walls of worship.
- I can have church anywhere, anytime.
- It doesn't matter if I am at work, on my job or in my car.

In fact, I'll be honest, some of the best prayer meetings I've ever had was when I was all alone in my car.

Some of the best worship times I've had with the Lord were when I was traveling somewhere and started singing some old hymn or worship song.

I don't know who started that church on Mulberry and Russell, but I'm SO glad they did.

- I don't know who the first people were to hold a prayer meeting were.
- I don't know who was in attendance when they had their first service like this one we're having today.
- I don't even know who the first pastor was.
- But I thank God that he had a burden for the lost people of his community.
- I thank God that those people built a church.

I want you to know something today.

- We need to understand this...
- We are not just building this church for what it can do for us today.
- We are building this church for the multitudes that will be affected by it both directly and indirectly in the next generation.
- We are building this church for our children.
- We are building this church for our Grandchildren.
- And we are saying to this community for the coming decades that 'we were here'.

- We believed God for the miraculous.
- We held to the Truths of His Word.

Yes, this generation needs what this church believes.

- Yes, this generation is going to be effected by what this church does.
- But more so than that, we realize the next generation is going to be effected by it.
- **What will come of our children if we do not build this church?**
- What will come of our Grand Children if we do not build this church?
- “A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children”

We’re doing more than having good church today.

- We are building up an inheritance for those who come after us.
- Hey folks, somebody has to build them a church.
- Somebody has to lay the foundation.
- Somebody has to build it some walls.
- For where will they go when their life seems to be falling apart?
- Where will they go when Hell tries to destroy them?
- Where will they turn when they can’t find God?
- Somebody has to build them a church.

This is why we’ve been meeting for the last month and a half.

- This is why we are here today.
- This is why we’ve leased this building this morning.
- This is why we got up at 5 am to be here at 6 am to set up for service today...
- We’re building something here.

It's why some prayed before anyone else got here this morning.

- It's why others practiced songs all week.
- It's why we went out and purchased microphones and offering plates.
- We're building a church!

We're building a place where the Outpouring of the Holy Ghost can occur.

- We're building a place where the good people of our community can come and learn how to be Born Again!
- We're building a place where our families can come to hear that Jesus loves them.
- We're building a Church.

I don't know if you can see it yet, but I can.

- I see it's high white steeple.
- I see it's grand entrance.
- I see it's huge parking lot with cars and people from all over Porter county pulling in.
- I hear the beautiful choir.
- I see the many classrooms.
- I see the teenagers worshipping in their own auditorium.
- I hear the incredible worship.
- I see the faces of people we don't even know yet.
- I feel the Goosebumps as the Spirit of God sweeps over that church.
- I see people being baptized by the hundreds.
- I see the outpouring of the Holy Ghost.
- **I see a great church!**

We're building a great church!

Can you see it?

- It's fantastic.
- It's beautiful.
- It's the most beautiful church in town.
- It's the church everyone wants to come to.
- It's the church that cares.
- It's the church that loves.
- It's the church that is making a difference.
- It's the church that is turning its community upside down with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- It's the church where lives are restored.
- It's the church where marriages are put back together.
- It's the church that's keeping this communities young people from committing suicide.
- It's preventing teenage pregnancy.
- It's preventing drug abuse.
- It's changing people's lives.
- It's making a difference.
- And it's reaching into the next generation.

**Let's build a church today.**

- Let's build it with our prayers.
- Let's build it with our giving.
- Let's build it with our worship.
- Let's build it with our work and dedication.
- Let's build it with our faithfulness.
- Let's build it with our love for God and our love for our neighbors.
- Let's build it with the anointing of the Holy Ghost.
- Let's build a beautiful Church!

We have all that it takes to build this church.

- "Jesus said upon this Rock will I build my church."

How many of you know what that Rock is this morning?



- That Rock is Christ Jesus Himself.
- This church will not be built upon the charisma or name of a man.
- This church will be built upon the One who died for the sins of all mankind.
- I'm declaring to you today that Jesus loves you and he loves this community. In fact He loves them so much that He died on the cross of Calvary for them.

"Let's Build a Church!"