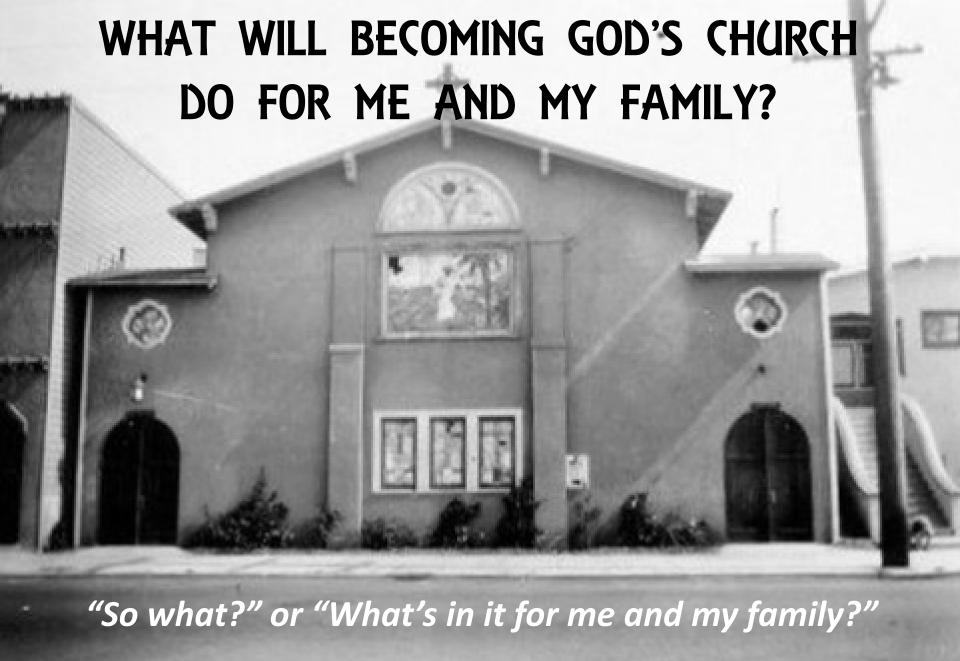
CHURCH Series...

Sep 19: Why are we a church?

Sep 26: Are we becoming the church God calls us?

Oct 3: Learning from the past. Moving to the future

Oct 10: What will becoming God's church do to us? "So what?" or "What's in it for me and my family?"





Since Aug 15, we talked about...

- Hope for a church closed for 2 years
- God's reasons why he calls a church
- A vision of our church's future
- It's fair to ask... what's in it for me and my family?

hwich GOD'S MASTER PLAN

Vision of the future for SJ...

A revitalized St. James Presbyterian Church whose leadership and congregation are Gospel-grounded, missionally active, and growing.

Questions we usually ask after a sermon:

- So what?
- What's in it for me?
- What is God telling and promising me?



Remember it's NOT the church name, history, traditions, the building that matters.

It's your and your family's life, right?

Matthew 6:30-33, NLT

And if God cares so wonderfully for wildflowers that are here today and thrown into the fire tomorrow, he will certainly care for you. Why do you have so little faith? "So don't worry about these things, saying, 'What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?' These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs.

Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.

Psalm 37:3-5, NIV

Trust in the Lord and do good. Then you will live safely in the land and prosper.

Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you your heart's desires.

Commit everything you do to the Lord. Trust him, and he will help you.

Psalm 37:16-19, NIV

It is better to be godly and have little than to be evil and rich.

For the strength of the wicked will be shattered, but the Lord takes care of the godly.

Day by day the Lord takes care of the innocent, and they will receive an inheritance that lasts forever.

They will not be disgraced in hard times; even in famine they will have more than enough.

Psalm 37:21-22, NIV

The wicked borrow and never repay,
but the godly are generous givers.
Those the Lord blesses will possess the land,
but those he curses will die.

Psalm 37:23-24, NIV

The Lord directs the steps of the godly.

He delights in every detail of their lives.

Though they stumble, they will never fall,
for the Lord holds them by the hand.

Psalm 37:23-24, NIV

The Lord directs the steps of the godly.

He delights in every detail of their lives.

Though they stumble, they will never fall,
for the Lord holds them by the hand.

Psalm 37:25-26, NIV

Once I was young, and now I am old.

Yet I have never seen the godly abandoned or their children begging for bread.

The godly always give generous leans to other.

The godly always give generous loans to others, and their children are a blessing.

Psalm 37:34, NIV

Put your hope in the Lord.

Travel steadily along his path.

He will honor you by giving you the land.

You will see the wicked destroyed.

Psalm 37:37-38, NIV

Look at those who are honest and good, for a wonderful future awaits those who love peace.

But the rebellious will be destroyed; they have no future.

Psalm 37:39-40, NIV

The Lord rescues the godly; he is their fortress in times of trouble.

The Lord helps them, rescuing them from the wicked.

He saves them, and they find shelter in him.

When we see St. James becoming the church God calls us to be, these are what we will start seeing...

- Always remember this: you and your family matter to God. God loves you!
- Little by little, we will see God's miracles in our lives.
- Because God intends to demonstrate His grace, mercy, and power through you and the church.

2 Thessalonians 1:3,11-12, NIV

Dear brothers and sisters, we can't help but thank God for you, because your <u>faith is flourishing</u> and your <u>love for one another is growing</u>.

So we keep on praying for you, asking our God to enable you to live a life worthy of his call. May he give you the power to accomplish all the good things your faith prompts you to do. Then the name of our Lord Jesus will be honored because of the way you live, and you will be honored along with him. This is all made possible because of the grace of our God and Lord, Jesus Christ.