

**TWO:  
MISSION FROM  
THE FOUNDATION**

**OR**

**MISSION: HOW,  
NOW?**

**2022 SID  
CONVENTION ESSAY**



# 1 CORINTHIANS 3:10 (NET)

“In accordance with the grace that God gave me, I laid a foundation as an expert master builder, and somebody else is continuing to build on it.”

# OUTLINE FOR PART TWO

HOW?

NOW?

# **A. MISSION, HOW?**

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I. Planting churches – do we want to?

## **2019 LCMS RES. 1-02:**

“... congregations and circuits be encouraged and supported by their respective districts to investigate and identify new mission plants.”

**HOW ABOUT US?**

# IMPORTANT QUESTIONS:

Does the Gospel  
pack more power  
at a new church  
than it does  
elsewhere? No!

Will the newness  
of the group give  
the Holy Spirit  
some kind of an  
assist? No!



# WHY ENGAGE IN CHURCH PLANTING?

- New churches attuned to new people
- Unchurched interested in a new church
- Bringing Word to inner cities
- Be physically close to the unchurched
- Inspires existing churches

## **B. MISSION, HOW?**

2. Expanding while contracting

# STEWARDSHIP OF MISSION RESOURCES

- Preserve mission infrastructure

*re:Vitality* can help existing churches

- Coordination via Circuit Forums,  
Convocations

# SUPPORT AND ACTIVITY

## SUPPORT

“I.I.I” funding”:  
one dollar  
per member  
per week

## ACTIVITY

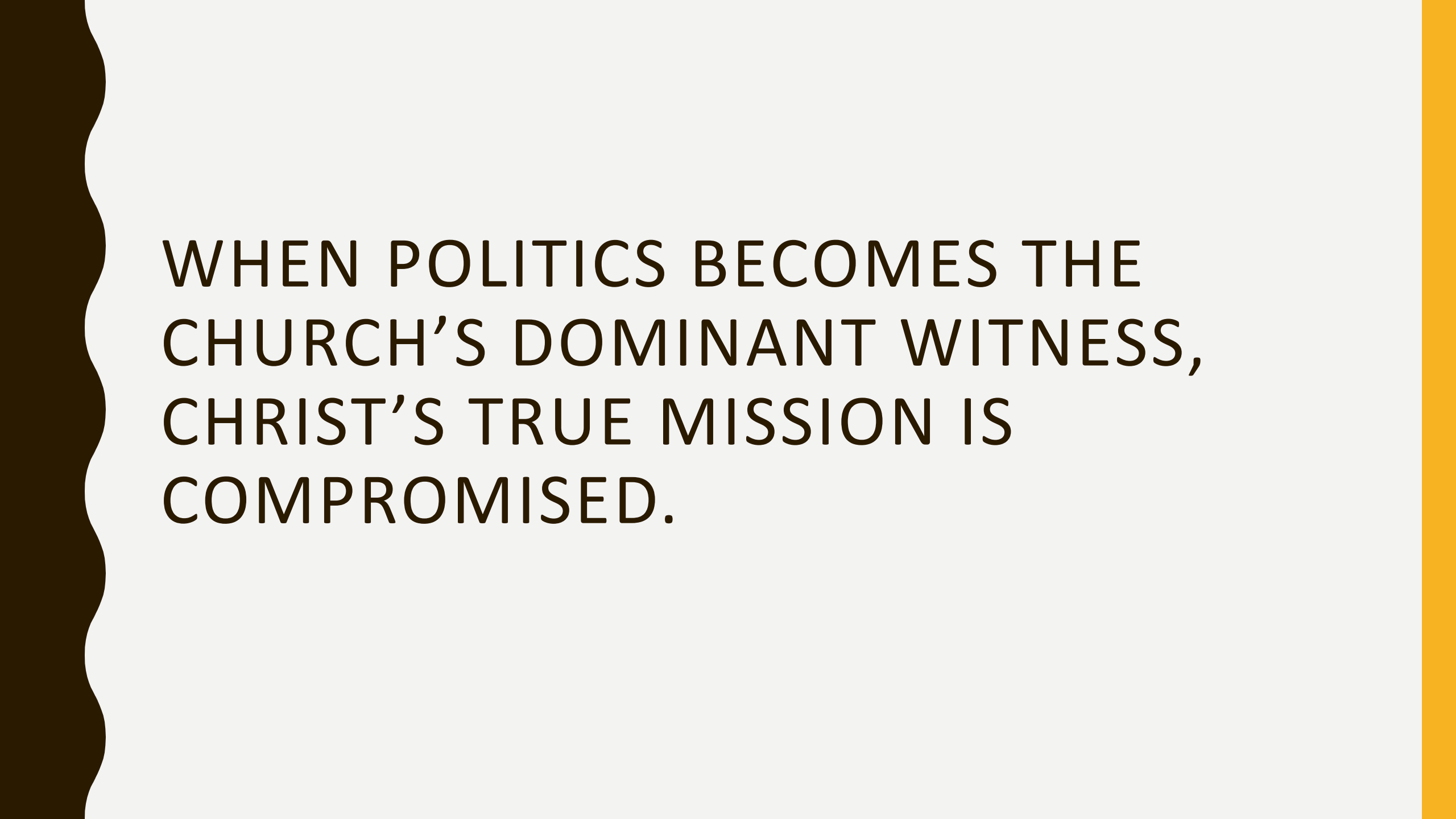
Personnel:  
Apt planters,  
supported by  
others in Circuit

## **B. MISSION, HOW?**

3. Reaching out in a politically and culturally divided nation



# **THE POLITICIZATION OF EVERYTHING**



WHEN POLITICS BECOMES THE  
CHURCH'S DOMINANT WITNESS,  
CHRIST'S TRUE MISSION IS  
COMPROMISED.



DO NOT FORGET SERVING  
NEIGHBOR IN LOVE





ACKNOWLEDGE THE LORD



SOUND THEOLOGY KEEPS US FROM  
BEING SWEEPED UP INTO CAUSES THAT  
CAN COMPROMISE OUR WITNESS

# **DR. GREGORY SELTZ:**

“Notions of white supremacy and America’s millenarian, manifest destiny were aberrations of God’s salvific work in Christ, often clothing modernist notions of progressive humanity in Christian garb. The LCMS rejection of modernism and secular humanism was an affirmation of biblical anthropology and the uniqueness of salvation by grace alone through Jesus Christ.”

# **LEVIN, *THE FRACTURED REPUBLIC***

“especially in eras dominated by individualism, it is precisely the moral and religious institutions that hold firm to orthodoxy that have proven most attractive – thanks in no small part to their countercultural character. . . .

. . . Without dominant institutions of mass conformity and uniformity, we are more than ever in need of institutions of interpersonal moral formation, and these will inevitably be institutions that address us at the level of an eye-to-eye community.”

# **CHRISTIAN CONDUCT MATTERS. BUT WHAT WHEN IT FAILS TO BE LOVING?**

Chemnitz: Beware of bending justification like Fathers

We have the blessing of living as Christians on this side of the Reformation!

# **B. MISSION, NOW?**

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I. Recognize the fact of death, and highlight the Resurrection



# JOHN 11:25-26

“I am the Resurrection and the Life. He who believes in Me, though he die, yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die.”

# JOHN 20:31

“ . . . that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.”

## **HEBREWS 2:14-15**

“ . . . took on flesh and blood, so that by His death He might take away all the power of him who had the power of death (that is, the devil), and thus He might free those who were subjected to slavery all their lives by their fear of death.”

# PHILIPPIANS 1:21

“...to live is Christ and to die is gain.”

## **B. MISSION, NOW?**

2. Practice hospitality in your locality

# **BARNA STUDY, *BETTER TOGETHER***

“...you have a neighborhood, and place  
*matters.*”

# HEBREWS 13:2

“Do not forget to show hospitality, for this is how some entertained angels without even knowing it.”

# 1 PETER 2:11-12

“I urge you, as aliens and strangers . . . Have good conduct among the Gentiles, in order that just when they are speaking against you as evildoers, as a result of observing your good works they may glorify God in the day of visitation.”



# 1 PETER 3:15

“Always be ready to answer anyone who asks you to explain the hope you have, but be gentle and respectful.”

## **B. MISSION, NOW?**

3. Follow up on electronic contacts

# **SURVEY FROM MARCH, 2020:**

- Almost half called the pandemic a “wake-up call.”
- One-fourth of secular people agreed.
- Almost one-fourth of non-Christians reported reading the Bible and listening to Christian material online.
- Over a third of Jewish Americans said they were listening on the internet to Christian sermons.

# **IF YOU ARE PUTTING YOUR CHURCH SERVICES ONLINE . . .**

- Do not stop.
- Let the service look like a church service.

Preachers, you have a broader audience!

# GATHER INFORMATION ON VIEWERS

- Invite them to ask for a “give-away” item
- Invite them to ask questions that you will answer on the video, after an upcoming church service
- Invite them to select a question that you will answer the next week
- Invite them to give their own “multiple choice” answer to a question that you ask

# ONLINE RESOURCE:

See “Gathering Contact Information” at

[www.cidlcms.org/outreach-witness-ministry.html](http://www.cidlcms.org/outreach-witness-ministry.html)

# **WILHELM LOEHE:**

“Mission is the life of the catholic church. Where it stops, blood and breath stop; where it dies, the love which unites heaven and earth also dies. The catholic church and mission – these two no one can separate without killing both, and that is impossible.”

# 1 CORINTHIANS 3:10

“In accordance with the grace that God gave me, I laid a foundation as an expert master builder, and somebody else is continuing to build on it.”