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**WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE FOR THE CHURCH TO BEAR WITNESS TO THE LAMB IN OUR DAY?**

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**BURLAP & SACKCLOTH: A PICTURE OF...**

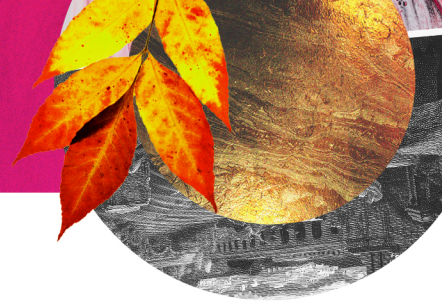
- 1. \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ : For God's purposes
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ : To God's greatness
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ : To God and His Kingdom
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ : For the sin & judgement of the world

**HOW DO WE \_\_\_\_\_ OUR WITNESS?**

**WEARING OUR WITNESS: Bringin' Burlap Back...**

**1. Is about our \_\_\_\_\_**

**You have to PUT IT ON**



## **First Church Identification: “Christ’s ones”**

*And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on Christ, like putting on new clothes. There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus.*

*(Galatians 3:27-28, NLT)*

### **What Jesus Said:**

\_\_\_\_\_ me: Then Jesus told his disciples, “if anyone would come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross and follow me.” (Matthew 16:24)

\_\_\_\_\_ from me: “Take my yoke upon you and learn from me...and you will find rest for your souls” (Matthew 11:29)

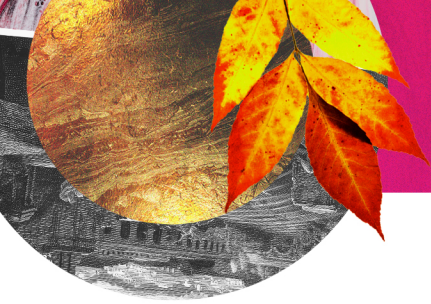
\_\_\_\_\_ me: “Whoever hears my words and puts them into practice is like a wise man...” (Matthew 7:24)

\_\_\_\_\_ me: “Why do you call me LORD, and not do what I say?” (Luke 6:46)

## **WE’VE BOUGHT INTO THE LIE THAT YOU CAN BE A “CHRISTIAN” BECAUSE YOU ONLY BELIEVE... NOT TRUE**

*You say you have faith, for you believe that there is one God. Good for you! Even the demons believe this, and they tremble in terror. How foolish! Can’t you see that faith without good deeds is useless? (James 2:19-20, NLT)*

*“For at least several decades the churches of the Western world have not made discipleship a condition of being a Christian. One is not required to be, or to intend to be, a disciple in order to become a Christian, and one may remain a Christian without any signs of progress toward or in discipleship...“The greatest issue facing the world today, with all its heartbreaking needs, is whether those who, by profession or culture, are identified as ‘Christians’ will become disciples – students, apprentices, practitioners – of Jesus Christ, steadily learning from him how to live the life of the Kingdom of the Heavens into every corner of human existence.” (Dallas Willard)*



## **WEARING OUR WITNESS: Bringin' Burlap Back...**

**2. Is about our \_\_\_\_\_**

**You have to STAND OUT**

*Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. 12Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us. (1 Peter 2:11-12, NIV)*

*"You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless. You are the light of the world —like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father." (Matthew 5:13-16, NLT)*

## **WEARING OUR WITNESS: Bringin' Burlap Back...**

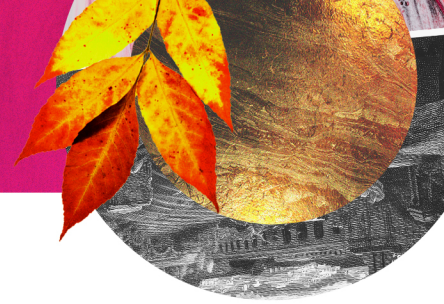
**3. Is about our \_\_\_\_\_**

**You have to PRESS IN**

*"Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is thrown away like a useless branch and withers. Such branches are gathered into a pile to be burned." (John 15:5-6, NLT)*

*"Grace is not opposed to effort, it is opposed to earning. Earning is an attitude. Effort is an action. Grace, you know, does not just have to do with forgiveness of sins alone." ... "To "grow in grace" means to utilize more and more grace to live by, until everything we do is assisted by grace. Then, whatever we do in word or deed will all be done in the name of the Lord Jesus (Colossians 3:17).*

*The greatest saints are not those who need less grace, but those who consume the most grace, who indeed are most in need of grace—those who are saturated by grace in every dimension of their being. Grace to them is like breath." (Dallas Willard)*



### **3 QUESTIONS TO ASK:**

**1. HAVE I OWNED (PUT ON) THE CALL TO BE A DISCIPLE?** Do you primarily identify as a Christian first and foremost? What labels/identifiers are competing for primacy?

**2. HOW ALIEN AM I? Do you stand out?** Are your ways foreign in this world? Are your cares, values, concerns, actions, attitudes and character distinguishable from the world around you?

**3. AM I CHANGING? AM I BEARING REAL FRUIT?** If no, repent? Reset and re-aim your life at knowing, loving & obeying Jesus