

THE WORK ROOM

(My Heart, Christ's Home; Message Five)

Psalm 78:2-7

A. Robert Munger pictures Jesus asking to see our "workroom"

1. *"What are you producing with your life for the kingdom of God?"* (This is the Mission question!)
2. *"Is this the sort of thing you are doing for others in your Christian life?"*

B. The Psalmist has given us a picture of what this might look like

1. Imagine three chairs where the middle chair represents your place in the family of God
2. The chair on the right reminds us someone was here before us
3. The chair on the left represents the people still to come, the next generation
"He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ." (Colossians 1:28)
"We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done then they'll put their trust in God" (Psalm 78:4,7)

C. Many churches are two chair churches

1. We're here to be a Christ-centered, Jesus-loving, Spirit-led Church that cares about each other and the world
2. We're to be a Church shaped by the Scriptures, empowered by prayer, and inspired by God's Spirit
3. We're to be a Church committed to engaging God's plan to intentionally pass the Gospel and the faith of our fathers and mothers to the next chair

BE INVITING

A. The Gospel gets passed on one person at a time

B. A Church changes when people care more about the chair of the future than about keeping their chair comfortable

1. When we look through the eyes of one who needs Jesus, everything changes
2. It's actually quite simple: *"Hey, you ought to come to my church"*

"Christians are leaving the faith in droves, and the trend isn't slowing down. In the last seven years, people in the United States who call themselves followers of Jesus has dropped over ten percent. Not only is the Church not growing, every year one percent are dropping out." (Pew Research)

- a. These are our children and grandchildren; our friends and neighbors
- b. The #1 reason people come to church - someone invited them!

BE CONNECTING

A. People come because they're invited, but they stay when they get connected

1. People are lonelier today than ever before
2. Physical and spiritual isolation is lethal: Join a small group

B. Ask, *"Who does God want to be sitting in this chair?"*

BE GENEROUS

A. You need to be financially invested in this mission/church

B. If we really want to reach people for Jesus, we need everyone on board

BE SERVING

A. We need to get out of the bleachers and onto the playing field

B. A church becomes great when people start saying *"I care so much about filling that third chair I am willing to do whatever it takes"*

"We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord...Then they would put their trust in God..." (Psalm 78:4, 7)

C. On the field we'll experience God in ways we never will on the sidelines

BE PRAYING

A. The stakes are high

1. Will the next generation come to know God? Will your grandchildren?

"When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?" (Luke 18:8)

2. Will we be part of a movement of prayer that ushers in revival?

B. The best is yet to come. God will pour out greater blessings than we can imagine

"The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." (Matthew 9:37-38)

C. If we are willing to turn the workroom of our heart over to God, we will not only be blessed, we'll be a blessing to the next generation and to the world