

Being a Difference Maker

Matthew 28:18-20

List of victories.

1. 18 water baptisms
2. 29 people gave their lives to Christ.
3. 4 people received the baptism of the Holy Spirit.
4. 9 new members were added.

But with victories comes the struggle. You can't have a victory without a struggle. The struggle to stay on course, to be prepared and focused dogs us all personally and as a church. Fortunately for us the Lord gave us a blueprint. Matthew 28:18-20.

Well it's that time of year that we begin to make resolutions isn't it? We are bombarded with ads that are trying to convince us to get healthy, get fit, lose weight, spend less, save more and get more organized. But we all know, and the stats are very clear, that we all make and break our resolutions. In fact 92% of us make and break our resolutions each year.

But what if this year was your year to not make resolutions but instead make a difference? Making a difference is hard but possible. Mark 9:23 says "Everything is possible to him who believes."

But I have found 2 major obstacles for people who want to be a "difference maker."

1. Knowing when and how to start.
2. Time. We make time for the things that are important to us.

An ineffective attempt at difference making is a real problem. It can cripple our ability to effect change, derail our mission God has called us to, and offers nothing to help the survival and growth of the Gospel in the world.

It can also leave you feeling tired, frustrated, afraid, and tired or worse, ready to give up and quit. It doesn't have to be this way. That's why this year I will be spending the first month of this year teaching on evangelism, one of the pistons that help drive us forward. Another new area we will be focused on is church planting. The board and I believe it is time to put our money where our mouth is. This year we will be giving \$100.00 a month to church planting and we are asking for your help. Each one of you got a renewal sheet for missions and this year we added church planting. Take this home and ask the Lord to reveal what He would want you to give this year.