

We are Church

We are outward-looking

Read: Matt. 5:14-16; 28:19-20; Mark 16:15; Luke 24:47-48; John 13:35; 20:21; Acts 1:8; Gal. 6:10; Isa. 49:6; Micah 6:8.

1. Are you naturally an outward-looking or inward-looking person?
2. Read Matthew 5:14-16. In which ways can we sometimes hide our lamps under a bowl? Why do we do this?
3. Why do you think that the key distinguishing factor of what makes a church healthy is whether that church is inward-looking or outward-looking?
4. Archbishop William Temple said, "The church is the only institution that exists primarily for the benefit of those who are not its members." Should we challenge his words? In which ways might his words be correct and in which ways might his words be incorrect?
5. Jesus said that his disciples will be known by their love for each other (John 13:35). Were you attracted to Christianity by genuine and sincere Christian love?
6. Amish proverb: "The man who rows the boat seldom has time to rock it." Thoughts?
7. Einstein once said: "You don't really understand something unless you communicate it in a simple way." Thoughts?
8. In which ways is your church deliberately outward-looking in its—
 - ~ Sunday church services?
 - ~ Its work and ministry in your community?
 - ~ Its desire for peace and justice in the world at large?