

Simple Gospel

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

“Easy Button,” Staples commercial caught the heartbeat and desire of American Culture.
Life should be easier!

Promise Keeper's Rally cheer, “We love Jesus, yes, we do!”
We Love Jesus, What about you?”

1. **Complicated** Church—at Corinth:

- Jews seek a **sign**.
- Greeks seek **wisdom**.
- The Gospel offers the simple **power** of God

“For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.”
—1 Corinthians 2:2

Growing Church had a simple process for making disciples. They understood it, worked it, structured to support it, and focused on it. --Rainer and Geiger.

Call of God upon **every** church is found in the great commission,
“Go and make disciples.” —Matthew 28:19

Oakland’s refined mission:

“To make passionate and compassionate followers of Jesus Christ.”

2. **Church** Made Easy.

Pray, invite, be born again, grow, serve, and bring others.

- a. **Pray** for a short list of persons we desire to see in church and to know Christ.
- b. **Invite** persons within your reach—Opportunities: Christmas, Easter, Party after Easter, Mother’s Day, Father’s Day, VBS, HGHF, Concerts, Holy Spirit Conference...
- c. Be Born **Again**—We get saved, become Christians, step over the line of faith, trust Christ as our personal Savior, experience the New Birth...

- d. **Grow**—Sunday School, Small Groups, Class Sunday's, Membership Classes, Sacraments, Worship, Prayer, Bible Study, Service, Giving...
- e. **Serve**--Class 301, Network Team, Shaped for Serving God, Pray, Interview, Serve, or Simply Sign-Up.
- f. Bring **Others**--we all become the inviters, intercessors, and it goes round again.

3. **Complicated** Church.

- **Committing** to the simple power of the Gospel.
- **Planning** to implement
- Just **doing** it.

Conclusion: No complicated organization is complete without **Job Descriptions:**

Simple Job Descriptions:

- **My job** as lead pastor is to keep us focused on the simple, power of the Gospel.
- **Your job** is to pray, invite, grow, serve, and go.
- **God's Job:** Power, dynamite work of God's Holy Spirit—save those who believe.

Have you come to that point?

Have you experienced the power of God in your life through Jesus Christ?

If you have, the next step is to begin praying for others.

Do you have short list of persons who do not know the love of Jesus?

Are you praying for a list of persons who do not go to church?

Memory Verse:

²³but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

—1 Corinthians 1:23-24