

Mike Mozingo—Lead Pastor January 5, 2025

Week 1

Name two or three people that you feel made a positive difference in your life.

What is a difference maker? Someone who is committed and purposeful about the relationships that they make and the decisions they make.

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ 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." Matthew 5:14-15 NLT

Some common traits of difference makers:

- Difference makers are driven by a deep sense of <u>purpose</u>.
- Difference makers instinctively know how to get things done.
- Difference makers possess exceptional <u>empathy</u> and <u>compassion</u>.
- Difference makers are not content with simply talking about change; they take action.
- Difference makers understand the power of collaboration.

The Church, the Body of Christ is a beautiful picture of collaboration when it's healthy, grounded, and focused.

Jesus has called His followers, the Church – to be difference makers. It takes all of us working together to make the greatest impact for God's Kingdom.

⁸ "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." **Acts 1:8 NLT**

We have been empowered by God to be difference makers. It is the Body of Christ, the Church that God has chosen to take this message of hope to the world.

- It is the Church He blesses the world through.
- It is the <u>Church</u> He spreads the message of redemption to the world through.
- It is the <u>Church</u> that proves that He is the one true God by our love for one another.
- It is the message of Christ, God's good news that is spread through the <u>Church</u> that transforms the world.

¹⁸ Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. ²⁰ Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20 NLT

- We as difference makers are to go and make disciples.
- We as difference makers are to <u>baptize them</u>.
- We as difference makers are to <u>teach them</u>.
- We as difference makers are to empower them to do the same.

There is no greater calling, purpose, or fulfillment than living as a Difference Maker, carrying on Jesus' mission of transforming the world.

Next Steps for me today...

- Become a difference maker for Jesus by giving Him my life.
- Become a difference maker by sharing my faith.
- Become a mentor and make disciples.