AMERICA NEEDS TO BE EVANGELIZED

American church attendance is steadily declining.

Yet -- Those who say that the church will die out are wrong!
THE CHURCH ALIVE

• The Greatest Days Of The Church Are Ahead

• Before Jesus Calls Us Home There Is Going To Be The Greatest Harvest That We Have Ever Seen

• JESUS SAID ‘I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH’ -- HE WILL!
THE CHURCH ALIVE

- Paul wrote 1 Thessalonians just 20 years after Christ’s Resurrection

- It was one of his first letters along with Galatians

- Thessalonica was a large mega-city where Paul started a church
• In 1 Thessalonians Each Chapter Has Instructions Or Reminders Concerning The Return of Christ
The Ready Church Is An Engaged Church

• A Church Involved & Productive
• A Church w/Energy To Do And Be...
• A Church Engaged In Mission
• 1 Thessalonians 1:1-3 (NIV) (1) Paul, Silas and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace and peace to you. (2) We always thank God for all of you, mentioning you in our prayers. (3) We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.
In The Ready Church is Grace & Peace

Grace = Divine Enablement

By His Grace -- We Can!

Peace = Necessary And Welcome

Peace Guards Our Hearts And Minds
The Church Alive

- The Gospel is the Good News of Peace

- Ephesians 6:14-15 (NIV) (14) Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, (15) and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.
THE CHURCH ALIVE

- Jesus Can Stop The Inner Battles In Life
- He Brings & Establishes His Peace
- Knowing His Grace And Peace Is The Starting Place for A Church That Is Productive -- Engaged & Involved In The Kingdom
THE CHURCH ALIVE

• We **Always** Remember **All** Of You

• We **Continually** Remember Before God
  • Your Work
  • Your Labor
  • Your Endurance
THE CHURCH ALIVE

- Christianity Is Not A Spectator Sport

- A Ready Church= God’s People...
  - Energized
  - Effective
  - Productive
  - Being The Church
  - Getting The Job Done
**The Church Alive**

- Church Life Is Not Just About **WORK** -- It's About **LABOR**!

- **Labor** = Troubled Strenuous Output
  i.e. A Soldier In Battle Fighting For His Life
• **Endurance** = The Capacity To Bear Up Under Difficult Circumstances
• The Times That We Living In Call For The Church To Be Bolstered By Hope
• *(1 Cor 15:58 NIV)* Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.
THE CHURCH ALIVE

- The Ready Church Is An Elected Church

- 1 Thessalonians 1:4 (NIV) (4) For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you.

- Chosen By God = To Be Preferred And Picked -- To Be Selected
THE CHURCH ALIVE

• *Chosen* = the Soldier Selected For A Special Task Because They Alone Met The Criteria & Could Finish The Task

• **John 15:16 (NIV)** (16) You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit--fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.
• **We Are Called And Chosen by God**

• **The Church Is God's Instrument Of Choice To Impact His World**

• *(1 Pet 2:9 NIV)* But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.
THE CHURCH ALIVE

- Church = "Ekklesia"
- Church = "Called Out"

Jesus said: "I Will Build My Church And The Gates Of Hell Shall Not Prevail Against It"
THE CHURCH ALIVE

- Jesus Christ Will Prevail
  He Will Build His Church

- We Could Not Even Be Together As The Church -- If God Hadn’t Selected – Elected – Preferred -- Picked Us Out – By His Will And Calling
THE *CHURCH ALIVE*

- We Are God's #1 Draft Picks... He Has A Job To Do – He’s Chosen Us To Do It

- The Church Is God's Idea
  - We Base Our Lives On God’s Truth
  - We Trust God For New Life To Be Alive
THE CHURCH ALIVE

• Satan Thinks He Has Taken Christ’s Church Down For The Count

• He Thinks We Are All But Dead Morally And Spiritually
The Church Alive

- We Believe For Divine Intervention
- We Are Believing For
- A Last Days Revival In America
- An Outpouring Of God’s Spirit
- A Renewal Of Righteousness
- A Renewed Sense Of Heeding The Word Of God, His Ordinances & Statutes
THE CHURCH ALIVE

- A Church That Knows The Peace And Grace Of God

- A Church That Is
  - Working By Faith
  - Laboring By Love
  - Enduring Difficult Times With Hope