**LAW #10 - YOU MUST STILL VALUE YOUR
SUNDAY GATHERINGS**

A common myth in the missional conversation is that Sunday worship services are not much use. “We are in our missional communities, and that is so much more faithful to the New Testament” is the (possibly) unsaid implication!

This seems to be a mistake, particularly if you are seeking to transition an existing church into a more missional disciple-making culture.

Your Sunday services (I realize for some that might mean some other days too) do some aspects of disciple-making better than any other size of gathering.

* When we are in our hundreds and worshipping Jesus, there is an amazing sense of inspiration about that experience (Acts 13:2).
* As we hear stories of Jesus at work, we realize how our little personal story fits into the bigger story of what God is doing across our church, our city and the world, and how all of those fit under the grand story of God as revealed in Scripture.
* And then there is the proclamation that comes as the Bible is preached, and we hear from gifted men and women who have been given the skills and time to prepare insightful and challenging messages to which we can respond.

Yet in a missional church, the purpose of Sunday services goes through a shift.

In a more traditional view of church, they are seen as the pinnacle of the spiritual week – perhaps with the sermon as the mountaintop moment! Thus the service becomes an end in itself, to which all paths lead, including our metrics. Discipleship is thus focused on an event.

In a missional church, whilst we probably do almost all that we did previously, the service and sermon are now a means to an end: to equip everyone to go in greater faith, hope and love back into their respective places of mission and witness.

**Effective discipleship is focused on a process, not an event (Philippians 3:17).**

So I strongly urge you to highly value what can happen on Sunday mornings, as a key part of how you make disciples and fuel the missional movement that God is building amongst you.

**APPLY THE LAW:**

What is the purpose of your Sunday services at the moment?

How can you cast vision to those on the missional frontier that Sunday services have great value to what they are trying to achieving?