

7: "The Christian: A Missional Relationship"

The Message

Introduction to the Series

Change the World

God's plan is that through his sons and daughters, he would bring his peace and reconciliation to the world

- the Church is the hope of the world

This often is not the reality of the Christians or the church

This is a problem because Satan destroys John 10:10

- Model of the Christ-follower: Satan comes to bring the people around you to destruction in this life and hell.

We want to be like the church of Acts 2:43-48

- This inspires us

The wrong model

The reason we do not live this vision out is because we have been following the wrong model

- in the church, as Christians, as men and women
- If you build with the plans wrong, you will not build what you wanted

We will look at God's pattern for the church, man, woman and the Christian

What does it mean to be a Christian?

A reduction: Saved, good, and goes to church

We have reduced the definition to something far less than what is

Saved, good, and goes to church

We think being to christian Means Being saved, good, and we go to church

A reduction

like saying a car == Metal, rubber and plastic

Or to say that eating is to put carbohydrates, proteins and fat in your body

A relationship

Being a christian Means Being in an intimate, all-satisfying, and Missional Relationship with God

By reducing it, we lose the essence of what it is

3 Questions

- What kind of relationship is it

- What do we get from this relationship
- What does this relationship produce in us

What does it produce?

What does our relationship with God produce in us

The Message

What is	What could be
<p>Relationships change you Every relationship changes you</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • walk differently • You talk differently • think differently <p>So if you're in a relationship with God, it makes sense that you would change.</p>	<p>New Purpose Our relationship with God produces a transformation in our purpose: the reason we live.</p> <p>This change starts a chain reaction that affects, changes, all of life</p> <p>This is what we'll see.</p>
<p>Changed for the worse Sometimes relationships change us for the worse</p> <p>Relationships change us for the worse: they empty us, they always want something from us, we are left with less</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • friends • Relatives • bosses <p>Can you think of some relationships that left you worse off?</p> <p>We bring that negative expectation to our relationship with God</p>	<p>They can change us for the better sometimes a relationship will change us for the better</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • relationship with parents • That friend who builds you up • a mentor who invests in you <p>Can you think of any relationships that let you better?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My boss at the funeral home <p>The relationship with God can change us for the better, more than any other relationship can.</p>
<p>Christians (worse) Many times it seems that the relationship with God changes people for the worse</p> <p>often, Christian are changed for the worse</p>	<p>Life!</p> <p>John 10:10</p> <p>God says that he came to bring us life</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They seem more boring • Their life's Mission is to not sin • They seem less happy (feel like they have lost a lot) 	
<p>Our treatment of other worsens</p> <p>When we become christians (sometimes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judging and criticizing others <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ because we are only seeing their defects, and not our own • Minimizing others <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Because we feel superior 	<p>New Purpose</p> <p>With other people</p> <p>In the relationship with God, what we get is a complete transformation in how we view life, how we treat others; our purpose changes</p> <p>Big Idea: The relationship with God produces in us a deep desire to spend our lives so that others know God, so that he gets much glory</p> <p>Philippians 1:19-26 His sole purpose to continue living was their faith.</p> <p>Wouldn't it be incredible if our relationship with God changed us like this,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • because right now, I have many reasons to live, among them helping others to know God. • It is not the only reason <p>Friends, family and acquaintances</p> <p>It is coming to see the faith of others around you as the only reason you're alive.</p>
<p>An obligation</p> <p>Living like this can feel like another obligation</p> <p>And it is: if you are not making other followers, you're not a follower</p> <p>Matthew 28:18-20</p>	<p>God gives us the desire</p> <p>Living this is a desire that God puts into his children It is born from within</p> <p>Philippians 2:13</p> <p>We've all felt it at different times</p>
<p>We don't know how to help others</p> <p>Even though we feel like we should</p> <p>We do not know how to help others to know God</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It feels forced 	<p>Application: Prayer, Friendship, Steps</p> <p>We fulfill this new desire God gives us when we do 3 things with everyone in our lives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pray for them

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We don't know how to study with them 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. form genuine friendships <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. with Christians and non Christians 3. We seek to help them take their next step towards God <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. God is calling them b. We speak, answer questions, authentic example of a follower who is all-satisfied in Jesus, study, invite, ask about their relationship with Jesus
<p>Fruitless</p> <p>Even when we are working like this, we feel that it is pointless. Sometimes our prayers, friendship, invitations and working with people do not produce any changes.</p> <p>No matter how hard we try, we cannot change the human heart (neither ours nor others)</p>	<p>Jesus changes the world</p> <p>When we work with Jesus, he changes the world.</p> <p>Through us, our words, our friends, our prayers, he does the impossible.</p> <p>Paul's confidence in Philippians 1:25-26</p> <p>Philippians 1:6</p> <p>We have seen examples of this here in this group We are each examples of this</p> <p>1 Corinthians 15:58</p>
<p>Next Step</p> <p>What do you need to do, to live with this new purpose?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enter into the relationship with God (by repentance and baptism, in order to be able to help people in your life come to know God) • Pray, develop friendships, guide them to take their next step 	<p>Why do this</p> <p>If you are not Christian by believing in Jesus and entering a relationship with him, you will be in a relationship that will change you for the better. You will have purpose, you will help the people around you come to know their Creator. Your life will not be meaningless. You will do something that will last for eternity.</p> <p>If you are a Christian: By entering into the purpose that your Father has for you, the desire to glorify him to bring others to Him, you will be letting your relationship with God change you for the better, give you a real purpose to your life, transform lives of the people in your life. You and they will become different people..</p>

Communion

We remember he who opened a path for us to be able to be in a relationship with God.