Discussion Questions January 14, 2024

Acts: Why the Church?



Acts. Willy the Charen.	
1. Take a moment to review your experience of the church through the ye negative? What were the experiences that most influenced you and how	
2. To what degree do you accept relational challenges as a good thing? For the people around you? By other believers?	How are you shaped by the interactions
3. What is God asking of you right now to be shaped and molded by the	Holy Spirit?
4. How do you respond to situations with other people that bring up: a. Humility/Pride?	
b. Grace and Mercy?	
c. Forgiveness?	



Acts: Why the Church?

Acts 2:42-47 (ESV)

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Acts 1:8

...you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

Etymology of "Church"

Church = Assembly = Ekklesia (Greek)

Church = Cirice (Old English) = Kirika (German) = Kuriake (Greek) "of the Lord"

Church = Cirice (Old English) = Kirke (Saxon) = Circus (Latin) "circle or ring"

Genesis 3:21 (ESV)

And the Lord God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

First recorded death - blood to cover the consequences

The Church is God's desired vehicle for growing his people and reaching the lost

1 John 2:4-6 (ESV)

Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked

Ephesians 5:1-2 (ESV)

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Titus 3:11-4:6

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works. Declare these things; exhort and rebuke with all authority. Let no one disregard you.

Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people. For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, 6whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior...

Romans 8:11 (ESV)

If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

Neil Anderson

Aloneness can lead to loneliness. God's preventative for loneliness is intimacy - meaningful, open, sharing relationships with one another. In Christ we have the capacity for the fulfilling sense of belonging which comes from intimate fellowship with God and with other believers.

Tim Keller

You are the generation most afraid of real community because it inevitably limits freedom and choice. Get over your fear.

Hebrews 10:19-25 (NIV)

Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another - and all the more as you see the Day approaching.