



# THERE'S A PLACE FOR YOU

Community – Obstacles & Objections

### Two Part Message

- gospel community is different
- based on .....
  - chosen, forgiven, adopted, gifted, empowered, informed, given a mission
- clear call to be known
  - growth, maturity, serving – in community
  - witness, ambassadors, seen by world
  - known by our love lived out
- no option for fruit & growth apart from source

### Given Clear Model & Examples

#### 1. Jesus

- calls the 12 (Matthew 4)
  - come and do life with me
- sends the 70 in pairs (Luke 10:1-2)
  - *“After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go.”*

- Inner circle of 3 (Matthew 17:1)

- *“And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves.”*

- John referred to differently (John 13:23)

- *“One of his disciples, whom Jesus loved, was reclining at table at Jesus' side,”*

- \* Jesus knew difficulty in these relationships, and was doubted, betrayed and abandoned at various times

## 2. Early Church

- Acts 2:42-47 *“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.”*

- gathered in the big group (temple worship)

- gathered in smaller groups (homes, meals etc)

\* faced many challenges and people complaining as well as comparing

### 3. Paul

- deep love for Ephesian Elders (Acts 20:36-38)

- *“And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all. And there was much weeping on the part of all; they embraced Paul and kissed him, being sorrowful most of all because of the word he had spoken, that they would not see his face again. And they accompanied him to the ship.”*

- evident love and relationship

- Desire to see brothers and sisters (1 Thess. 3)

- *“For this reason, when I could bear it no longer, I sent to learn about your faith, for fear that somehow the tempter had tempted you and our labor would be in vain. But now that Timothy has come to us from you, and has brought us the good news of your faith and love and reported that you always remember us kindly and long to see us, as we long to see you”*

- over and over his love declared

- Relationship with Timothy (Phil 2:19-22)

- "I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I too may be cheered by news of you. For I have no one like him, who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare. For they all seek their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. But you know Timothy's proven worth, how as a son with a father he has served with me in the gospel."

- special relationship and shared ministry

- \*Paul had problems, called out people, was challenged by Peter



## Obstacle and Objections

### a) Expectations and Reality

- what should be and what I experience

### b) Lies I have agreed with

- if they knew this about me.....
- how they see me, what they think
- unworthy to be a part
- I can grow and love Jesus apart from...

### **c) Value about what I get, not what I give**

- how is this benefiting me

### **d) values and priorities**

- how important is this really

### **e) Jealousy and comparison**

- others experiencing what I am not
- desire what they have

### **f) Opposition**

- you have an enemy that wants to destroy you

### Objections

#### a) Been Hurt or Betrayed

- experience says not a safe place

#### b) Disagreement with...

- their conclusions about life & faith
- their life choices and opinions

#### c) Private Person

- don't like being known
- dislike accountability

**d) Weary of it and want a break**

- tired of serving and not receiving
- others taking advantage

**e) Just don't like some of the people**

- extra grace required

**f) Tired of loving others & saying good-bye**

## So What?

- 1. Persevere** – don't grow weary in well doing
  - run the race
- 2. Determine to Engage**
  - give self away, serve, live in community
- 3. Practice the One Another's**
  - forgive, bear with, encourage, build up, grow
- 4. Mark the Journey**
  - markers and mileposts matter