

REVIVE CHURCH-THE APOSTOLIC MINISTRY

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Differences in church and kingdom

- **Kingdom** is the whole of God's redeeming activity in Christ in the world
- **Church** is the assembly of those who belong to Christ
- *Weekly Gathering for worship is not the end goal, but it is necessary to reach the end goal of the Kingdom of Jesus permeating everything. Life is meant to flow from the threshold of worship!*

The church when operating in its fullness is the living, breathing body of Christ which is purposed to bring revelation of Jesus and His kingdom.

One mentality that we must continue to fully break in order to move forward in Kingdom mindset is that only church leaders are called. *Everyone who has been born again by the power of Jesus Christ now has Citizenship in the Kingdom of God and is called to both live and release an awareness of the Kingdom.* Every believer is called to have a ministry, to disciple others, to touch those around them and partner with the Holy Spirit to establish Jesus Kingdom everywhere we have influence.

Laymen in the Old Testament was a term defining the difference between Priest and ordinary person -it means those without knowledge or training. Often those within the church without position were called the laymen and they acted like it. **The New Testament however uses terminology that promotes oneness and not separation, it expresses unity over individualism.** *The New Testament authors never use the term laymen, it is a disabling term but somewhere along the lines the church picked up the terminology again, along with the false idea that the clergy are the called do the real work and the laymen's work is inferior.*

The New Covenant under the blood of Jesus uses terms like church, body, family and bride all promoting our unified purpose in Christ. Yes, we have different roles, but we all are essential to Jesus and our calling is never minimized. **Everyone is meant to be equipped, to grow up into the fullness of Jesus Christ. To disciple, evangelize and operate in their giftings as a needed body part.**

Understanding God's metrics

- **The measure of a healthy church is not how many people come, rather how many are transformed by Jesus Christ and are living in their two-fold calling of priest (worshipper) and king (calling/serving).** How many of our people that come, go out and re-present Jesus Christ to the world and operate as sons and ambassadors of the Kingdom of heaven.
- **What happens here (Weekly gathering) is equipping you to fulfill your Kingdom calling out there.** The corporate gathering is essential and should primarily be about beholding Jesus Christ together; it is a priestly function to worship. We move from this place into our assignment or calling into our kingly function where each of us have the daily opportunity to make Christ known and work to build the kingdom.

- The individuals called to serve the church have the primary responsibility of equipping the rest of the body to fulfill their calling!

Ephesians 4:11-16 -¹¹ And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, ¹²for the **equipping of the saints for the work of ministry**, for the **edifying** of the body of Christ, ¹³till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; ¹⁴that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, ¹⁵but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ— ¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

- Primary role of church leadership is the **Equipping** of the saints for the **work of ministry** and the **edifying** of the body.
- Until the Body of Christ is built up **reaching unity** in the faith
- **Maturing** to the measure of the fullness of Christ (The head)
- No longer **infants**, tossed around

Equip-means to perfect

Root word-**katartizō**, to complete thoroughly, i.e. repair or adjust:—fit, frame, mend, (make) perfect(-ly join together), prepare, restore.

- **Luke 6:40** - *A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone who is perfectly trained will be like his teacher.*
- **Matthew 4:21** -Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, *mending their nets*. He called them,

Jesus has given the church the ministry of restoring or mending the nets so that they can be fully operational for Him. If you are called to Leadership in the church you primarily have an equipping ministry, serving the body so that everyone can enter into Christ's fullness.

Edify- the act of one who promotes another's growth in Christian wisdom, piety, happiness, holiness. architecture, i.e. (concretely) a structure; figuratively, confirmation:—building,

The Holy Spirit desires to place ministry into the hands of common ordinary people. We are all called, we are all invited to participate in the divine activity of releasing heaven. Our Father designed us in such a way that His fullness will not come apart from unity, He made us to be dependent upon each other. Much of our growth and maturity will come through fellowship within the body of Christ! This is where we are trained up to minister.

Matthew 16:18 - *And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.*

Jesus builds His church, remember that, this is His. He appoints leaders who in turn equip all saints to minister in the love and power of the Holy Spirit. We are all commissioned to make disciples and bring the kingdom. The weekly gathering does not sum up Christianity but it is an essential part of it as we worship,

pray, learn to love, get unified and mature. As important as our weekly gathering is if it doesn't equip and empower you to bring the kingdom of God outside these walls we are missing our ministry calling.

All the church is in the kingdom but all the kingdom is not in the church. If what we do only happens here and impacts those who come it is not really establishing God's kingdom.

A Kingdom is the government of the King. The sovereign rulership and governing influence of a king over his territory, impacting it with his will, his intent, and his purpose, manifesting a culture and society reflecting the king's nature, values and morals. (Myles Munroe)

Genesis 28:16 ¹⁶When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I was not aware of it." ¹⁷He was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven."

Bethel

- **First mention of the house of God and there is no building, not a tabernacle or tent.** It is God with a man on the side of the hill. God's perspective=house of God
- **The house of God is the gate of heaven. You are God's house.**
- Gates are entry points; they take you from one area to another simply by passing through. **We are the entry point for others to experience Jesus. We are purposed to be dual citizens of heaven and earth.**
- **People don't have to come into a building to encounter the living God,**

We have lost much influence in the western world and have allowed the culture to put us in our place and confine our belief to a building and confined true ministry to a few leaders within the church. When God's plan was that we would all carry on the ministry of Jesus, empowered by the Holy Spirit and we would touch everyone, everywhere. We have been told to try and get people into a building with a program and King Jesus died so that we could have His life flowing through our spirit, soul and body. He wants the kingdom in us so that we bring revelation of Jesus to the world.

You are the House of God and His kingdom is both established and growing within you. **Wherever you go you are an ambassador of His kingdom.** You have been entrusted with a family, job, a neighborhood and more to bring the revelation of Jesus and establish His kingdom in partnership with Him.

The body of Christ should be more like a river that flows out and not the dead sea. A place that listens and responds to the promptings of God's voice.

Personal ownership for discipleship must rest on every single believer. We must all enter into this fully and get trained in the many facets of Jesus Jesus Christ. No one can stay in their immaturity and blame someone else. Enter into practices that mature you, be discipled etc.

The west needs more Apostolic minded church and less pastoral churches. It is not just about our needs being met, it is also about us being empowered to be the worlds answer. **The Pastoral church looks at it's members as laypeople (Untrained and undeducated) the Apostolic church views each member as essential and everyone should be equipped to bring the ministry of the Kingdom of God!**

“One of the most important events at the end of the church age will be the restoration of the Apostolic ministry to the church. The ministry that opened the church age will be the one who closes it” *The Apostolic Ministry by Rick Joyner.*

The raising up of a victorious church, demonstrating for all time to all creation that truth will prevail over lies and righteousness will prevail over iniquity will be the completed job of the apostolic ministry.

Home group questions

Discuss the differences regarding church and kingdom. Discuss the differences between a church that is pastorally lead vs on that is Apostolic.

Why is it so important we value the calling upon everyone’s life rather than just a few that are called to lead the church?

Discuss God’s metrics vs mans metrics.

Discuss the following statement. **We are the entry point for others to experience Jesus. We are purposed to be dual citizens of heaven and earth.**

What are some ways Jesus wants you to raise the bar of expectation concerning His church.