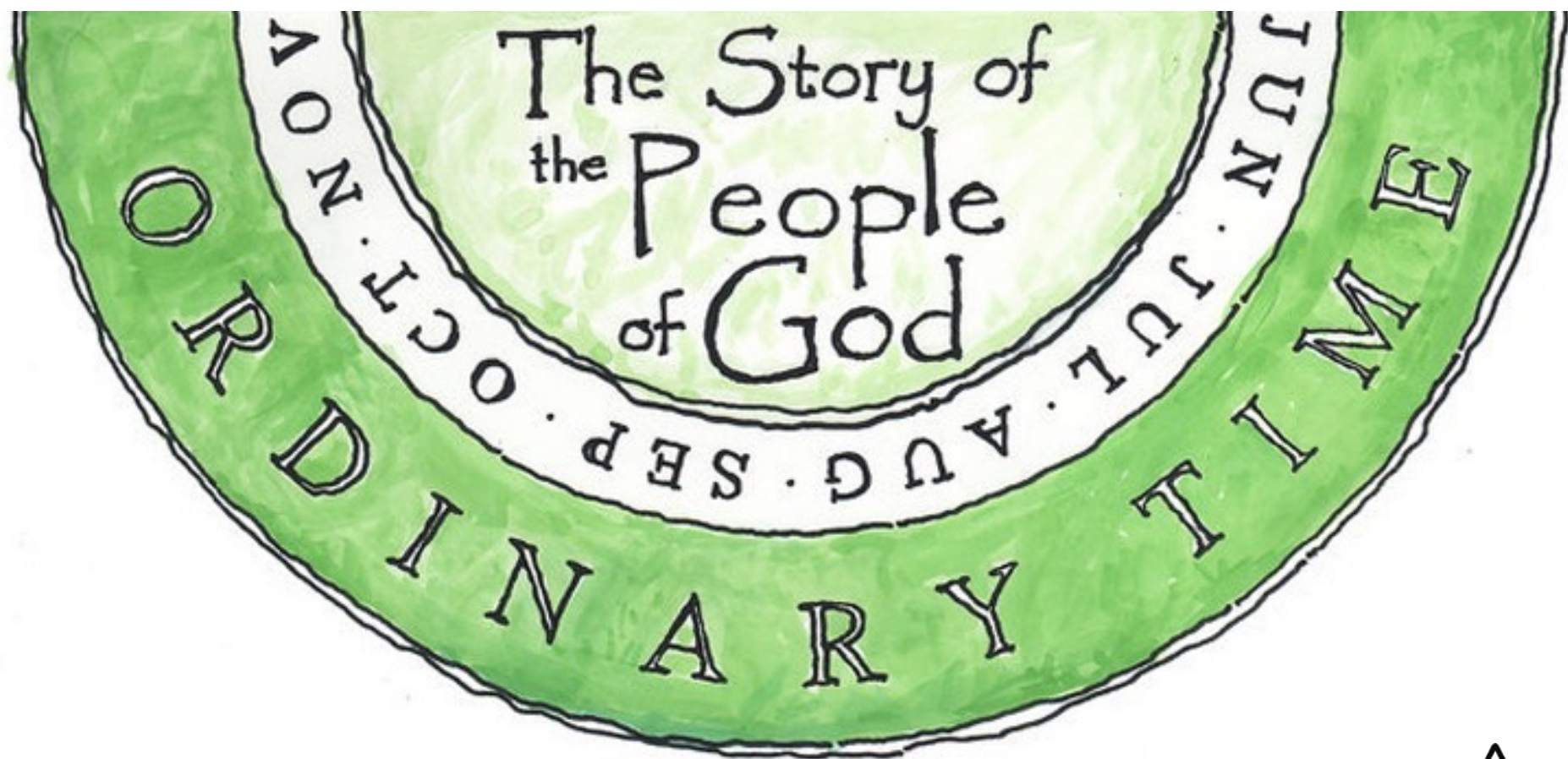


God of all who wander in the wilderness:
go before us as beacon and guide.
Lead us through all danger,
sustain us through all desolation,
and bring us home to the land
you have prepared for us.
Amen.

Opening Prayer

A decorative banner at the bottom of the slide. It features a dark background with white line art of hands reaching out. Overlaid on this are several overlapping circles in red, green, blue, and purple. To the right, there is a white geometric pattern resembling a woven basket or a fishnet.



GOOD/BEAUTIFUL COMMUNITY

The ***Christ-Centered*** Community

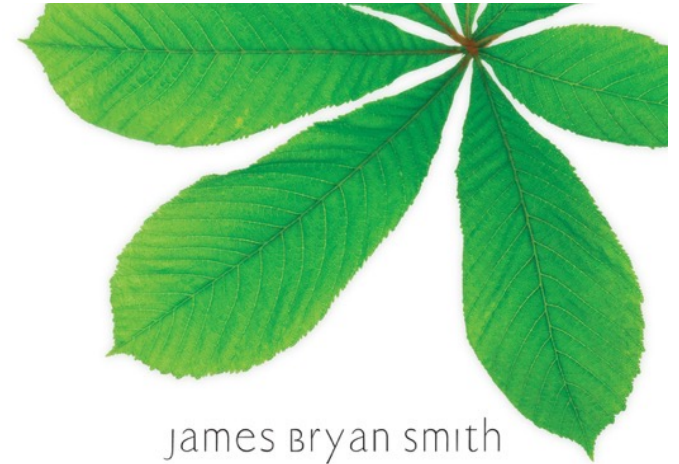
The ***Worshipping*** Community

The ***Reconciling*** Community

The ***Hopeful*** Community

The ***Encouraging*** Community

The ***Serving*** Community



james bryan smith

the good and beautiful COMMUNITY

FOLLOWING THE SPIRIT, EXTENDING GRACE,
DEMONSTRATING LOVE

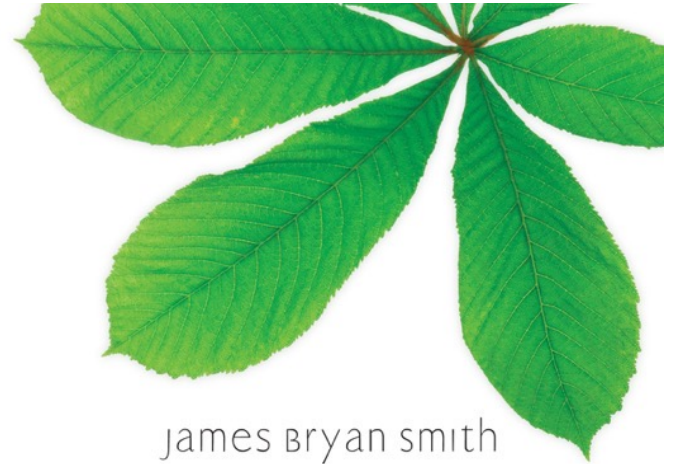
"The best practice I have seen in Christian spiritual formation."

—DALLAS WILLARD

FALSE NARRATIVE

The community exists to serve me,
and should not challenge me

- “Do they do my type of music?”
- “Is there my type of coffee?”
- “Will they challenge my politics?”
- “Do they talk about my money?”
- “Can’t I just do church online?”



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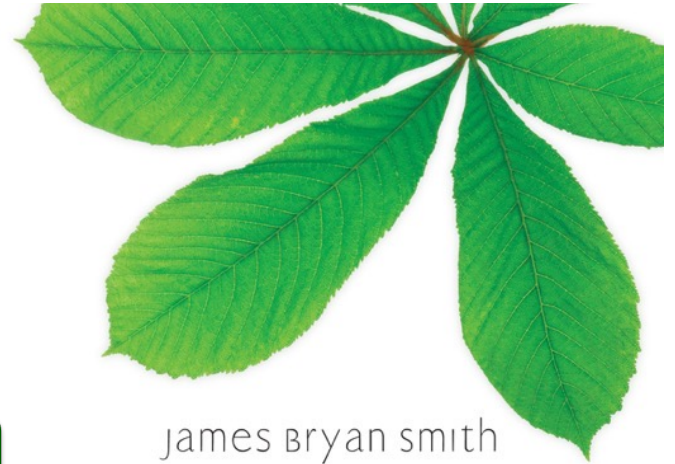
—DALLAS WILLARD

FALSE NARRATIVE

The community exists to serve me,
and should not challenge me

TRUE NARRATIVE

The community exists to help shape
and guide my soul, and it's okay for
them to expect certain behavior
from me, and offer encouragement
and accountability when I need it



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*And we urge you, beloved,
to **admonish** the idlers,
encourage the faint-hearted,
help the weak, **be patient** with
all of them. See that none of you
repays evil for evil, but always
seek to do good to one another
and to all.*

HOLY
BIBLE

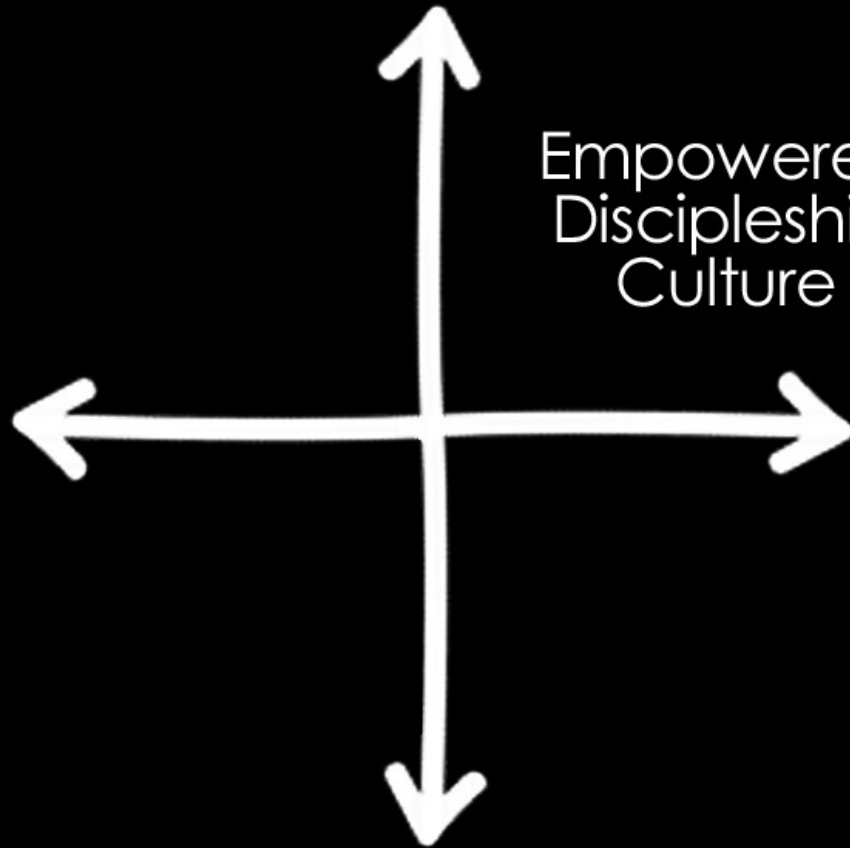
1 THESS

5:14-15

Invitation

Empowered
Discipleship
Culture

Challenge



Now...Jesus asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' They said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah!'

HOLY
BIBLE

MATT

16:14-17

'For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.'

HOLY
BIBLE

MATT
16:17-18

From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the (religious leaders), and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, 'God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me;

HOLY
BIBLE

MATT

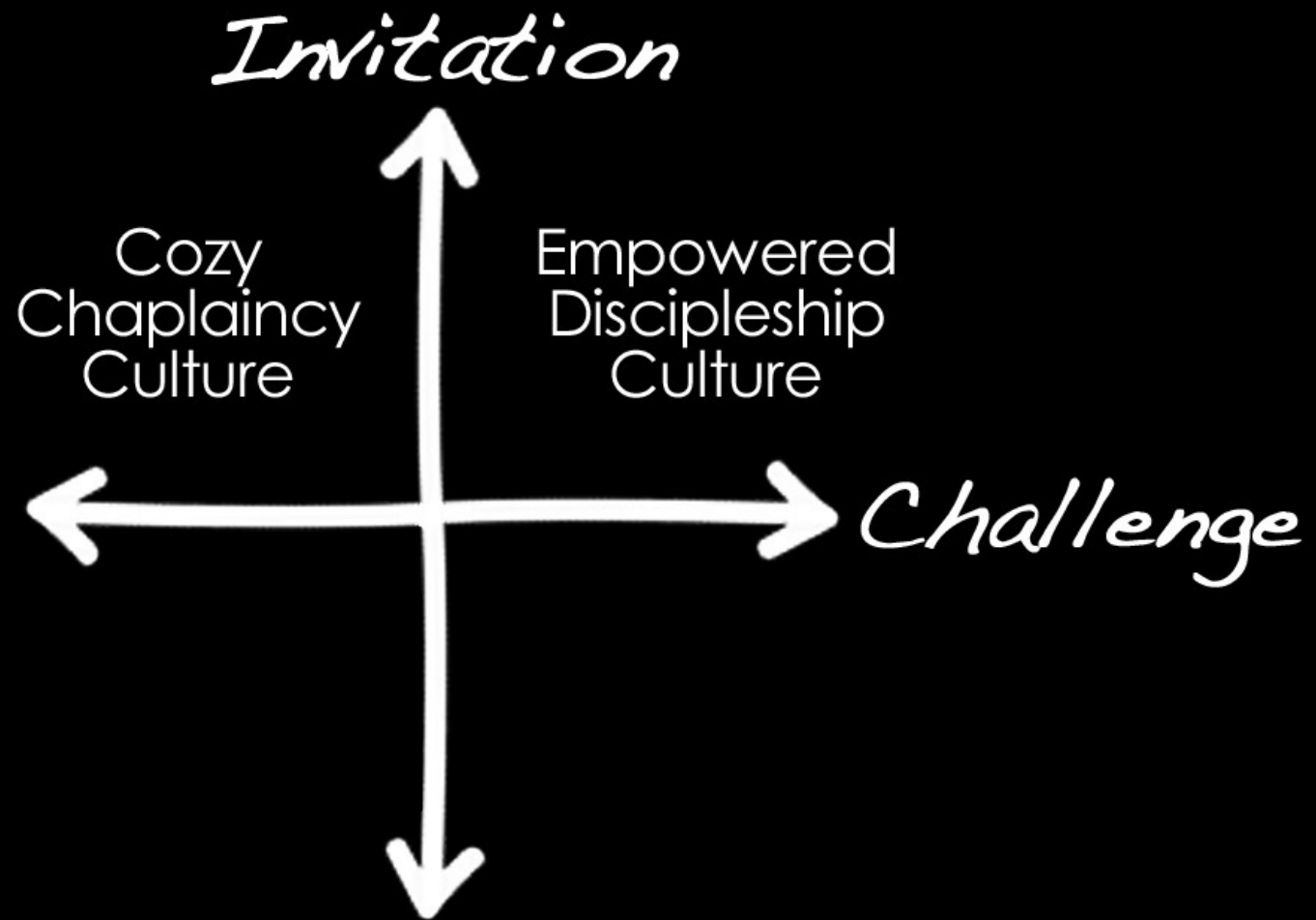
16:21-22

*But he turned and said to Peter,
'Get behind me, Satan! You are
a stumbling-block to me; for you
are setting your mind not on
divine things but on human things.'*

HOLY
BIBLE

MATT

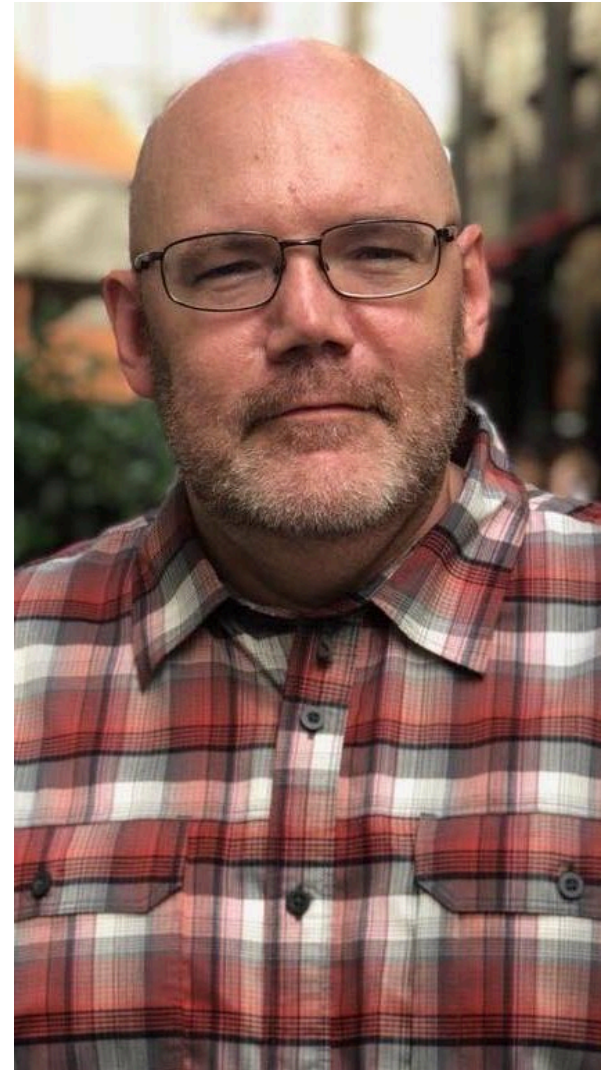
16:23



It may be true that treating churchgoers as consumers by trying to meet their stated needs may make them feel more comfortable, but by lowering our expectations of them as active participants, we are decreasing the possibility of genuine transformation.



It may be true that treating churchgoers as *spiritually wounded patients* **by** *trying to care for their spiritual/emotional/relational needs, and giving them the time and space needed to heal* **might help them feel safe, but if we don't move from invitation to challenge at some point, are we decreasing the possibility of genuine transformation?**



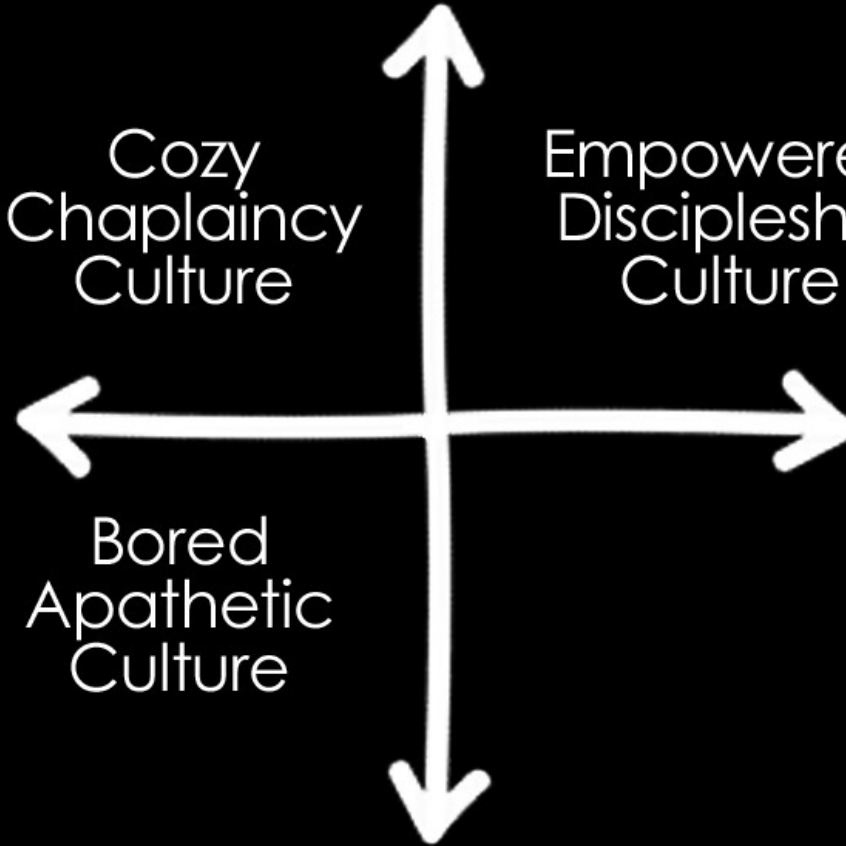
Invitation

Cozy
Chaplaincy
Culture

Empowered
Discipleship
Culture

Bored
Apathetic
Culture

Challenge



The 80/20 rule = 80% of the work being done by 20% of the people, and (the church) tends to take advantage of those who are willing to do whatever is asked. This almost always leads to burnout. We need to challenge the entire community to be involved. Many churches don't ask enough of everyone, and ask too much of only a few who can't say no.



Invitation

Cozy
Chaplaincy
Culture

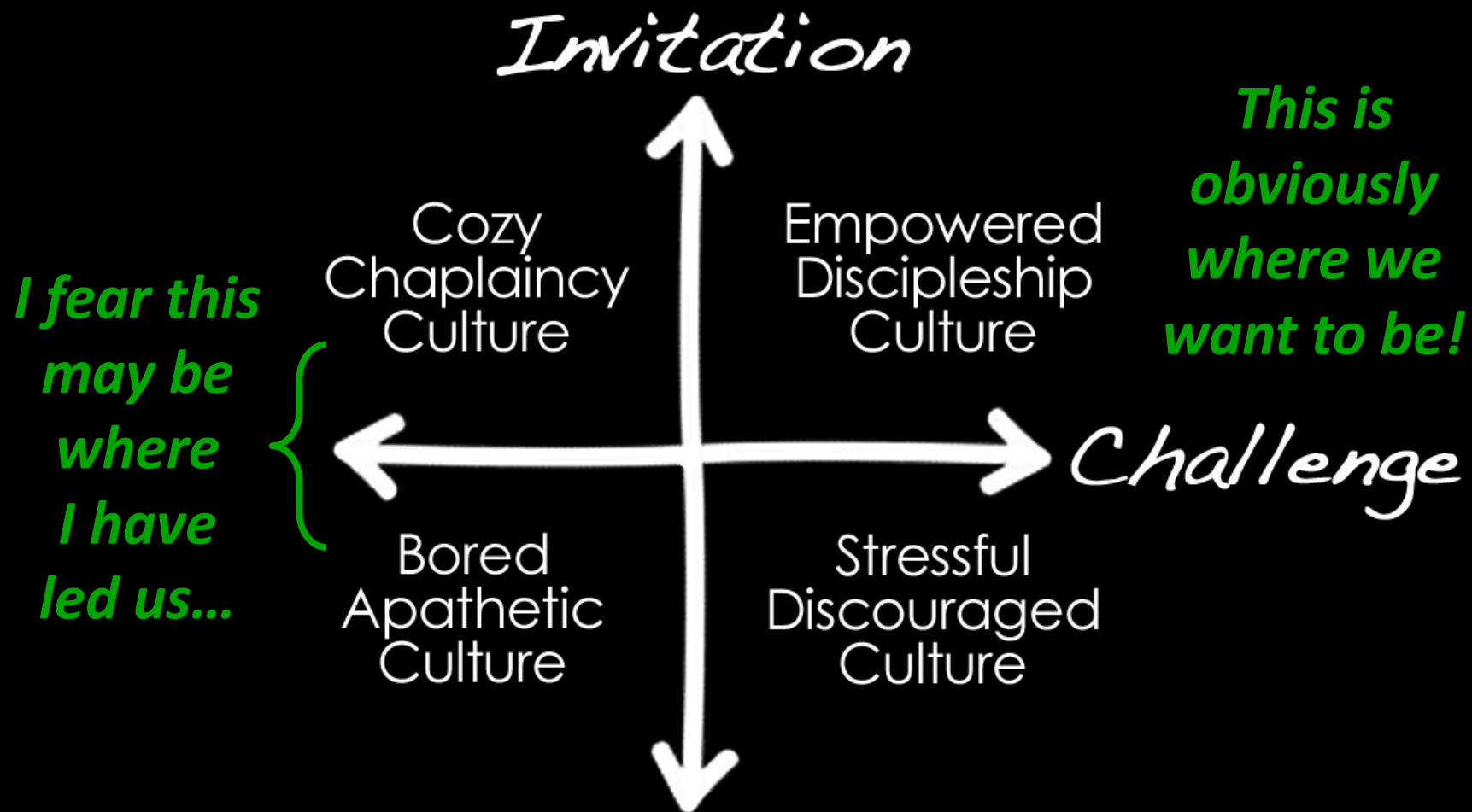
Empowered
Discipleship
Culture

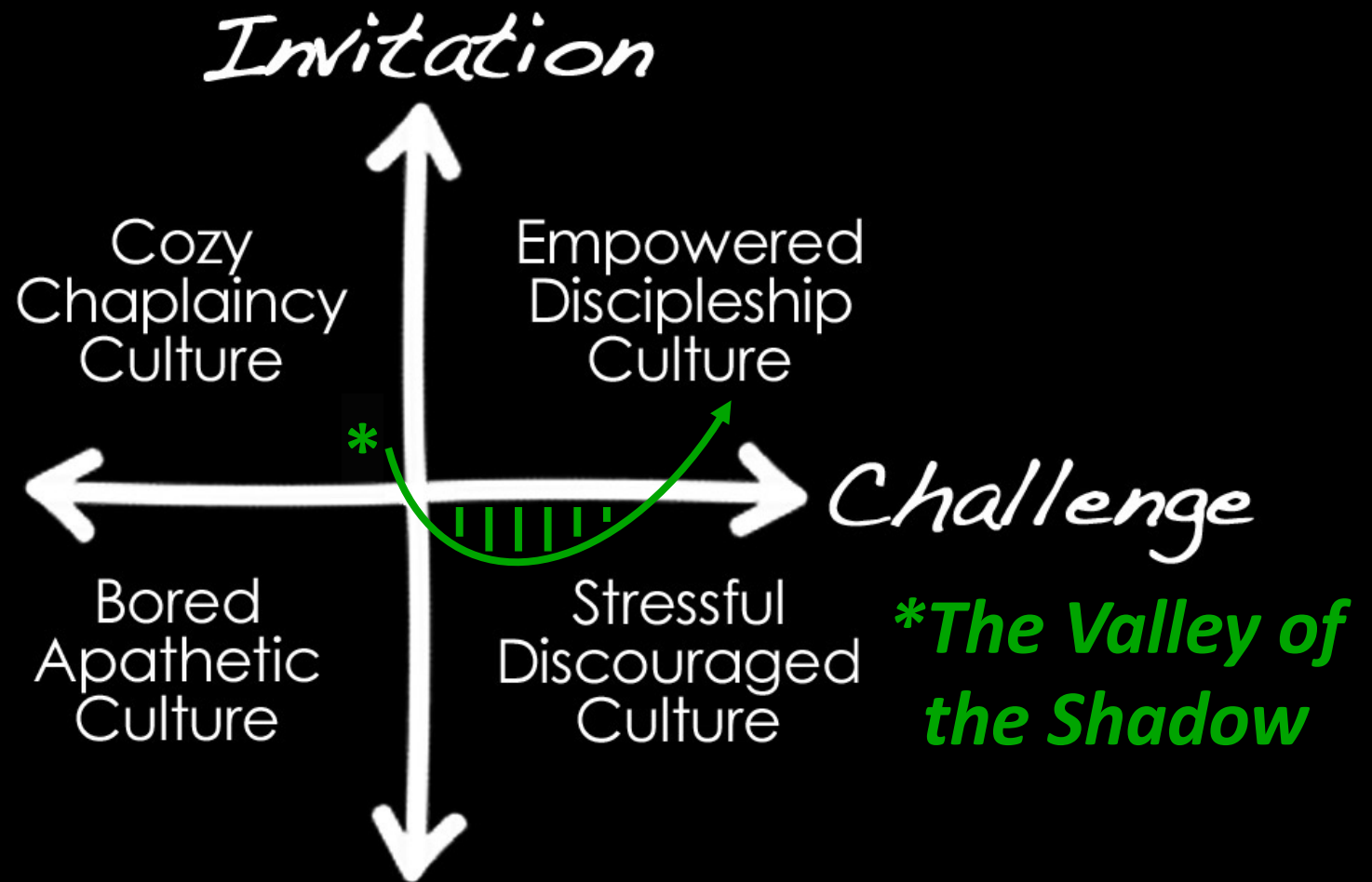
Challenge

Bored
Apathetic
Culture

Stressful
Discouraged
Culture



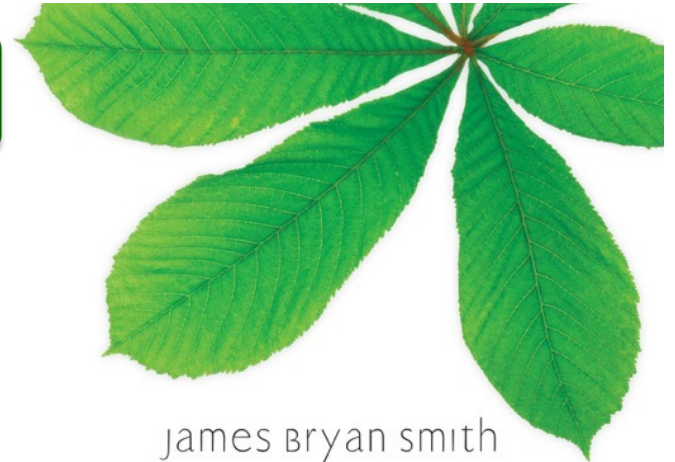




THE COMMUNITY...

1. Reminds Us Who We Are

- We are loved, learning to love
- We are holy, learning to be holy
- We were broken, now restored



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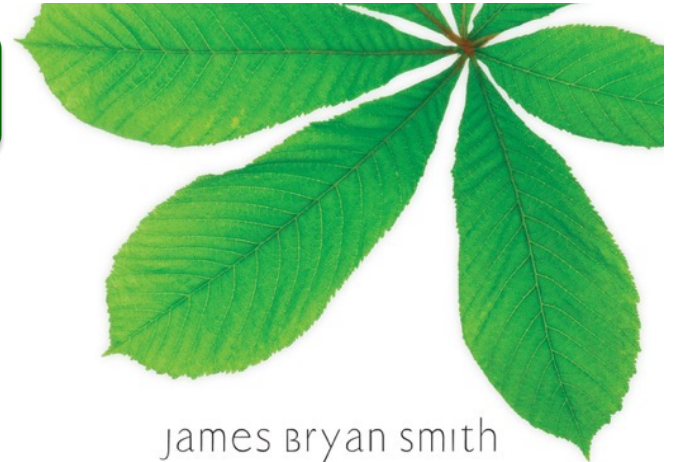
THE COMMUNITY...

1. Reminds Us Who We Are

- We are loved, learning to love
- We are holy, learning to be holy
- We are broken, yet restored

2. Shows Us What We Can Become

- In Christ, and becoming more...
- In the kingdom, and...



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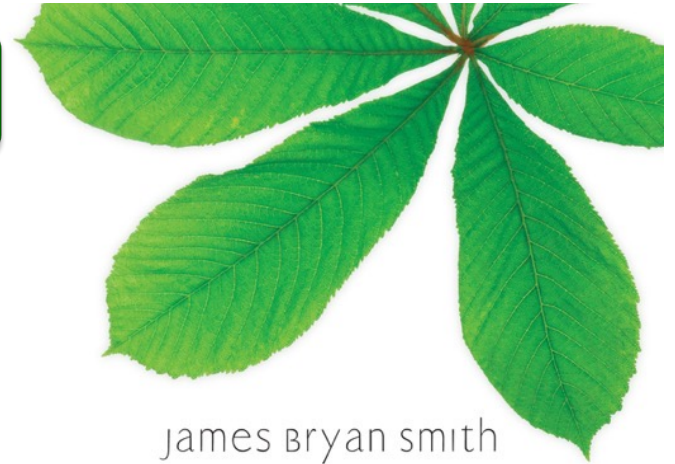
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THE COMMUNITY...

3. Invites AND Challenges Us

- With genuine love, not shame, guilt, control, or manipulation
- Welcomes and accepts, admonishes and challenges
- Acknowledges our brokenness, and celebrates our restoration



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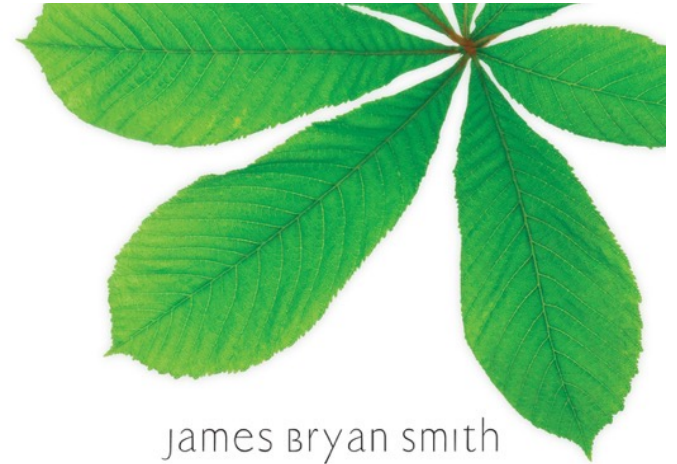
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SOUL TRAINING EXERCISE

Find a safe, encouraging person who has permission to ask you:

- How is your soul?
- In what ways do you need to be encouraged right now?
- What, if anything, is holding you back from living more fully for Jesus in every aspect of your life?



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Holy God, you who love
justice and hate oppression
and call us to righteousness, and not to exploitation.
Give us generous and loving hearts,
and eyes to see the splendor of your reign,
that we may live in truth and honor, and praise you
for the transformation of our lives, through
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Closing Prayer





MATCHING GIFT // NOW – NOVEMBER 1

Payoff estimated @ \$15,700

Min Goal = Raise 50%, Use Savings for other %50

Dream Goal = Raise enough to use 0% savings!



MORTGAGE

Payoff

MATCHING GIFT INCEPTION

A Matching Gift Challenge WITHIN Our Challenge!

Anonymous Donor Pledging \$5,000 Match

If we raise \$5k, They'll Give Another \$5k!



MORTGAGE

Payoff

PRE-CHALLENGE* AMOUNT RAISED = \$3,511

(* Doesn't Count Towards the \$5k Challenge!)

Post-Challenge = \$2,577 (\$2,433 to go)

Total Raised So Far = \$6,088



MORTGAGE

Payoff

IF WE MEET THE 5k MATCHING CHALLENGE

$\$2,577$ **(+ \$2,423)** + \$6,088 = \$11,088

Plus \$5,000 anonymous gift = \$16,088

\$16,088 - \$15,700 = \$388 OVER payoff!



GIVING

WAYS to GIVE

ONLINE

Give here online, using the form to the right!

For existing givers: first, set up a new recurring gift through your bank account, then login to your CCB account to cancel your former recurring gifts.

IN PERSON

We have two secure giving boxes, each equipped with sealable envelopes to help you safely give by cash, check, or credit/debit card. Giving boxes are located on the north/south end of the east riser.

BY MAIL

Feel free to mail gifts directly:

Vintage Church

1501 New Hampshire St

Lawrence, KS 66044

(NOTE: Gifts given on/before 12.31

are applied to this year's giving records)

\$0

I'm giving with...

Card / Bank account

Fund

Mortgage Payoff - Fall 2026

Frequency

One-time

Weekly

Monthly

Every two weeks

Continue to give \$0.00

or

 Log in to your giving account