

The Meeting Place

Opening Service at 2149 Five Forks Trickum

Habakkuk 2:2

And the Lord answered me: “Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it.

Exodus 33:13 (ESV)

Now therefore, if I have found favor in your sight, please show me now your ways, that I may know you in order to find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.”

From the place of Meeting, God would communicate with Moses His ways.

Acts 4:29-31 (NLT)

And now, O Lord, hear their threats, and give us, your servants, great boldness in preaching your word. Stretch out your hand with healing power; may miraculous signs and wonders be done through the name of your holy servant Jesus.” After this prayer, **the meeting place** shook, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. Then they preached the word of God with boldness.

In the Old Testament, particularly in the book of Exodus, the Israelites were instructed to construct a portable sanctuary known as the Tabernacle or *Tent of Meeting*.

This was a place where God's presence dwelled among the people as they journeyed through the wilderness.

The Tabernacle served as a *meeting place* between God and His people, where **sacrifices** were made, **prayers** were offered, and **God communicated** with His people.

After the Israelites settled in the Promised Land, King Solomon built the first Temple in Jerusalem as a permanent dwelling place for God's presence.

Though it was a fixed building, it was still to be considered a *tent of meeting*, or better said, a *place* where God would meet His people.

Like the Tabernacle, the Temple was a sacred space where people could meet with God through **worship**, **sacrifices**, and **prayers**.

It served as the focal point of Israelite religious life until its destruction by the Babylonians and later rebuilt by Ezra and Nehemiah.

In the New Testament, the "Meeting Place" refers to the assembly of believers for worship, fellowship, teaching, mutual encouragement, and a place where God can communicate with His people.

Hebrews 10:24-25 (ESV)

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

In Christian theology, the Church is often regarded as the "Meeting Place" where believers gather to worship God, receive spiritual nourishment, participate in sacraments (such as communion), and engage in acts of service and ministry.

Overall, the "Meeting Place" in the Bible symbolizes the meeting of God with His people, whether in a physical structure like the Tabernacle or Temple or in the spiritual communion of believers gathered together.

It emphasizes the importance of fellowship, worship, and relationship with God and one another.

Between the Old Testament and New Testament, though the liturgy, sacrament, practice, and methodology might change - *one thing is true, the Meeting Place is a Biblical concept meant to be carried into our daily walk.*

The church must be a place where sacrifice is our language, worship is our posture, prayer is our priority, and yielding to God's presence is our timing.

Whether this be in your prayer closet, in your car, amongst your family, in a small group, in a Wednesday night Bible Study, or in a Sunday Worship Service - EVERY believer needs a Meeting Place in their life where they can ["Encounter God"](#).

Exodus 25:22 (NKJV)

And there I will meet with you, and I will speak with you from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim which *are* on the ark of the Testimony, about everything which I will give you in commandment to the children of Israel.

There is a ***meeting place*** that He provided where He meets with you to speak with you, to fellowship and commune with you, to instruct you in that which you will go tell His people and the world.

It's a place of deep intimacy, aloneness with Him, a place of revelation. That is where Moses was instructed about the commandments to give to the Children of Israel.

I'm all for advancing ourselves socially and economically... but please hear me, our duties here on Earth are not to inherit the Earth.

We are here to bring *heaven to earth*.

As such, our greatest priority ought to be to meet with Him. To be instructed by Him. It means to prioritize the things of the Kingdom.

Make a space for the grace of God.

Intimacy, aloneness, and a place of revelation in God will only come when we not only prioritize the things of the Kingdom but slow down long enough to hear Him speak.

Sometimes we get so action-minded in the Kingdom that we blow right passed what God is trying to tell us.

To follow Jesus means you surrender control in two areas: direction and speed. You cannot grow impatient with the pace of God.

A place's vision and mission cannot be vague or ambiguous; we must stand firm on that which the Bible stands firm on.

As such, we stand firm and give an account to Habakkuk... in that we:

Habakkuk 2:2

... "Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it.

In this ***Meeting Place***:

Our vision is simple,

We aim to take people to a place where they can meet with God.

If you step into this house I aim to help you corporately encounter God - but not to stop there.

We want you to go from corporate encounters in the Meeting Place to personal encounters in the Secret Place.

Our mission is timeless,

Our mission is the same mission as was given to the 12 Disciples before the ascension of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The mission of the Meeting Place Church is a continuation of the Great Commission.

Go into **ALL the World**, and **make disciples**...

Making something takes effort. As such, we will continually labor to make relationships... Knowing friendship has an end goal - discipleship.

We need every relationship in our lives to eventually be a disciple of Jesus Christ.

Now let's make something very clear, lest someone thinks we belong to one race, culture, or economic class...

Discipleship is not race bound, it is not color bound, it is not bound by a social class...

If you have breath in your lungs, you have been called to be a disciple of Jesus Christ.

Let us not segregate the body of Christ. Let us echo what heaven will be like for an eternity:

Revelation 7:9-12 (ESV)

After this, I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from **every nation**, from all **tribes** and **peoples** and **languages**, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Racism does not belong in the Meeting Place.

Segregation does not belong in the Meeting Place.

“Better than” entitlement does not belong in the Meeting Place.

In the Meeting Place, everyone is welcome.

In the Meeting Place,
everyone is called to be a disciple.

In the Meeting Place, everyone stands on level ground at the foot of the cross.

Altar Call:

Our doctrine is established.

We choose to practice and Believe the words of Jesus Christ.

We believe in the *Sola Scriptura*.

We do not omit any one text; contrary, we believe every text is fitly joined together to give a clear narrative within scripture.

We are a continuation of the first church founded in the Book of Acts.

We believe people need to repent, be baptized in the Name of Jesus Christ, live by, and be filled with the Spirit of God.

We will not apologize or shy away from our standing on scripture - **why?** Because we believe the scripture is the inspired word of God, and it is the answer to the world today.