

CATALYST

<http://adamsblvd.org/catalyst-class/>



Together: In Community



The Kingdom of Heaven

- ▶ A present reality & A future reality
- ▶ “Here and more to come”
- ▶ Parallels our spiritual development: we imitate Christ and as we mature we become even more Christ-like

And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image
from one degree of glory to another.

For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

2 Cor 3:18



The Kingdom of Heaven

Through **Christ**

the present reality of the kingdom has come.

Through the **Body of Christ**

the future reality of the kingdom is coming.

The Kingdom of Heaven

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a **new creation**. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was **reconciling the world** to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, **we are ambassadors** for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

2 Cor 5:17-20

- When the community is connected to God in heart and mind and spirit and strength, then we take our small corner of this earth and we restore, redeem and renew earth.



The Kingdom of Heaven



Thus a new heaven and a new earth are the result of a **community** having a righteous connection to God.



Not in community?

What are the down sides of pursuing individually?

alone?

isolated?

solo?





Not in community?

“personal faith”

- the very idea that faith is individualistic

“communal faith”



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“Our Father” - Jesus



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no other society in all of human history has been as hyper-individualistic as American culture



Historic Jewish Nation and Community

1 King (originally God)

12 Elders (heads of the 12 tribes)

72 Sanhedrin (Judiciary Council)





Historic Jewish Nation and Community

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12 Elders (heads of the 12 tribes)
72 Sanhedrin (Judiciary Council)

1 Jesus
12 Apostles
72 Disciples



Historic Jewish Nation and Community

12 Apostles **in pairs** sent out for 3 months at the beginning of the ministry

72 Disciples sent **in pairs** for 3 weeks right before the final march on Jerusalem



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Jesus gave them power to heal physically and spiritually.

They are extending Jesus' will, power and culture to the entire country.

Why pairs?






Advantages of Community



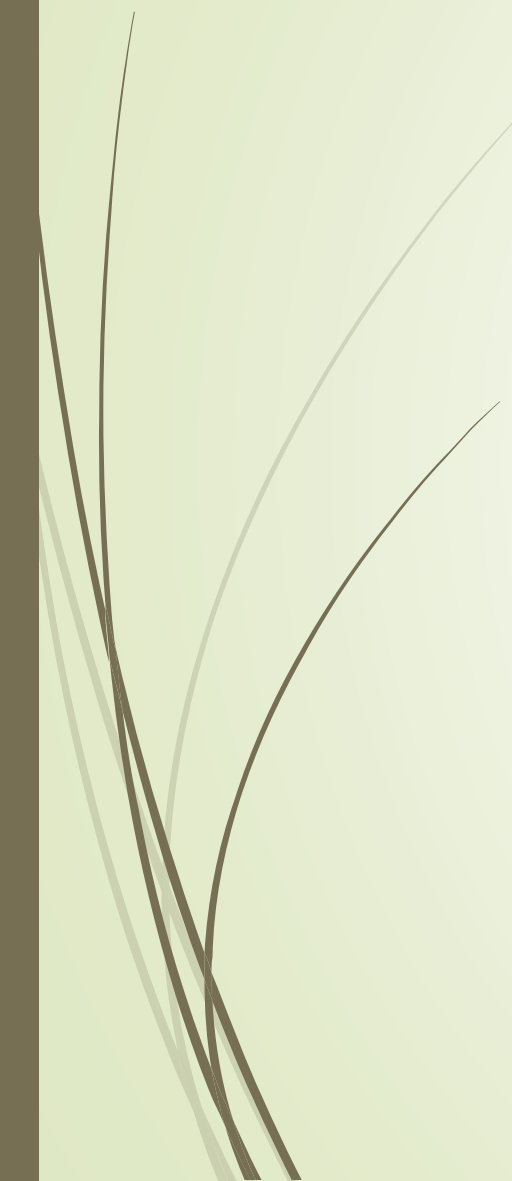


Advantages of Community

- To support and encourage each other
 - To keep accountability for each other and for their power
 - To be the living demonstration of the Kingdom that is both here and yet to come
- 



Advantages of Community

- Healthy love is expressed between multiple parties, otherwise it's just selfish narcissism or unrequited obsession
 - accomplishes greater goals by leveraging divergent strengths
 - To notice the trends of God, when the Holy Spirit is doing something similar across multiple fronts
(Including God moving in the lives of the 'outsiders')
- 



Our Role

- ▶ The Body of Christ – act and manifest the will of Christ
We are his hands and feet
- ▶ The Bride of Christ – promote the honor and glory of Christ

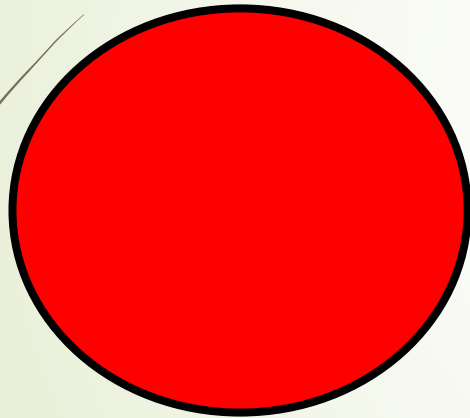


Structure and Strategy

- Growing a church from **attractional** to **missional**
- Through the book of Acts the Church trends
 - from a single central attractional church in Jerusalem
 - to a collection of missional churches

Structure and Strategy

➤ Surface area



Come to us



We're coming to you

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