



Our Place

“B-Town” is the classic college town:

...progressive culture mixed and sometimes clashing with conservative values, small-town family relationships stabilizing a transient student population, vigor for hard work accompanied by a whimsical playfulness, international presence and Hoosier hospitality.

Unrelated people tossed together into one community.

A trademark of the city and of Indiana University is the limestone. This native resource tells the story of Bloomington. Stone cutting and manufacturing industries of the past have today been surpassed by industries of scholarship, music and the arts, professionals, entrepreneurs, and a growing wave of high-tech creatives.

Woven Together

Walking east along Kirkwood Ave past the Courthouse on the Square, Library, the coffeeshops, restaurants, and bars, then through the historic campus, you can see this architectural stamp of stone on most buildings. It's a unique feature that weaves unrelated people together in a related sense of place.

Fulfillment through the New

People are also related in their longing for personal fulfillment.

New business ideas, new artistic methods, new educational paradigms, new family and sexual mores, new musical styles, new social justice and environmental causes, and new religious and moral philosophies become building blocks for this.

And, in this confluence of the “New,” people gathered from Indiana to Beijing try to create their own human-centered paths to fulfillment, rejecting even the very idea of God.

Fulfillment through the Old

And, some stick to the “Old” ways of religion.

Keeping the rituals or following the “rules,” being really really good, huddling in the safety of a religious subculture, and working hard to gain religious and life “success” can also be attempts to shape a human-centered path, denying the presence of personal need and brokenness, also rejecting dependence on God.

Both the secular and the spiritual, conservative and liberal, student and townie, brick layer and lawyer need the good news of grace: a love freely given by God, bringing renewed life to broken people.