

SERMON NOTES:



14th June, 2026

Part 7 - For the Life of the World
CHURCH

Pastor Mick Spann

1. The Church Lives Between Memory and Hope

Anamnesis – Remembering

- Active participation in God's story (more than simply recalling information).
(Eg. Jesus: "Do this in remembrance of me.")
- Israel remembered God's saving acts through Passover.
- The Church remembers through:
Communion, Baptism, Worship, Meditation of scripture and prayer
- The Church does not merely remember God's story; we live inside it.

2. The Church Lives the "Not Yet" Now

Prolepsis – Anticipating the Future

- The Kingdom is already here, but not yet complete. So the church is to live now in light of what is to come. God's future reality breaks into the present.
- Consider Psalm 8:4-6 and Hebrews 2:8. Humanity is destined for glory. We do not yet see that reality fully. But Jesus guarantees the future.
- The Church is called to embody tomorrow's Kingdom (albeit only partially) today.

3. The Church Is a Preview of New Creation

Because Jesus has risen:

- New creation has begun, and even though the world remains broken, the the family of Christ are like the firstfruits of renewal.
- Which means our gatherings are not escapes from the world. They are rehearsals for the world made new. In that way, worship becomes Kingdom practice.
- The future Kingdom is not merely believed, it is embodied in the life and action of the church. Christ's proclamation of the Kingdom come, continues through His People.
- Just as Jesus: Served, Sacrificed, Loved, Proclaimed Good News of the Kingdom come. So the Church is called to do likewise.

What makes a Kingdom?

A King

- Jesus must govern our lives.
- Kingdom work points people to Jesus.

A People

- Kingdom people are Church people.
- The Church is God's visible sign of His reign on earth.

4. The church collaborates with the Creator King for healing and harmony

- We cannot save the world. Only Jesus can. But we can tell about what He has done and reflect Him through:

Peacemaking, Truth-telling, Mercy, Compassion, Service, Hospitality, Faithfulness

Important Reminder:

- Work is not the goal... Communion with God is the goal. We Can Only Reflect the King If We Know the King. Meaning good work is the fruit of good communion.
- Consider Acts 3: Peter heals the lame man not through talent, technique or personal power, but what He'd seen Jesus do, in the authority of the risen Jesus by the Power of the Holy Spirit.
- The Church's effectiveness comes from abiding in Christ, knowing His way and aligning our work with His heart.

5. The Church Is Preparing for the Wedding Feast

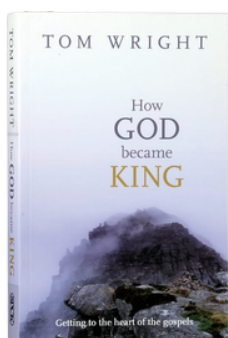
In Revelation 19, the fall of Babylon ends with a celebration banquet.

- The Church is a community of people awaiting the Bridegroom. Like a Bride being prepared. Which means that Holiness, Faithfulness, Endurance and Worship matters.
- We are not waiting to escape the world; we are preparing for the feast.
- And the Church is called to be a joyful preview of His “not yet now” Kingdom.

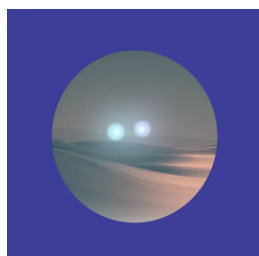
For the Life of the World.

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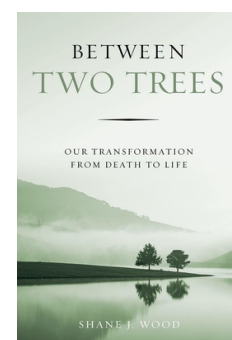
Resources that Mick found helpful for mornings message:



How GOD
became KING



Podcast
The Family Of God



Between
Two Trees



Present Hope of a Future Kingdom

SMALL GROUP OUTLINE

CONNECT – *help people get comfortable*

As a child, what were some of the “rote” prayers you were taught? For example, “Now I lay me down to sleep...”

REVIEW

Watch Episode #7: Church



Read the key idea, verse, and passage. What insights did you take away from this week’s scripture and message?

Key Idea The church lives out God’s Kingdom out for the life of the world.

Key Verse *1 John 3:2*

Key Passages *2 Corinthians 4:13-18* *Matthew 6:5-13*

DISCUSS – talk through the content to gain understanding

- Read Mark 6:5-13 aloud.
- What problems could arise when praying a set prayer like the one in Mark 6:9-13?
- What could be some advantages to praying a set prayer?
- What are some of the things that keep you from praying more?
- What are some triggers in your life that help you remember to pray?
- Which part of the Lord’s Prayer stands out to you? Why?
- What is the meaning of “prolepsis”? How is the acorn a good illustration of prolepsis?
- What are some ways you could see a church living in the present hope of a future Kingdom (prolepsis)?

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- Read through the verses that describe the church: Eph 2:19, 1 Peter 2:10, 1 Peter 2:5, 1 Cor 12:27, Eph 5:25b-27).
- Which description of the church resonates most with your experience or perception
- Describe a time when you saw this description in action.
- Which description of the church seems the most out of place to you?
- What are some ways we put our hope in the transient “things that are seen” instead of the eternal “things that are unseen” (2 Cor 4:18)?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE – taking time to listen to God and respond

Read:

- As a group or in pairs, read verse 9 of the Lord’s Prayer.

Pray (all together or in pairs):

- In response to verse 9, offer prayers of awe and wonder, giving honor and adoration to our Father who is in heaven.

Repeat this process with verse 10, again with verses 11-12, and again with verse 13, praying each time. Here are prompts for each section:

- In response to verse 10, pray for God’s purposes in your life and in the world around you by welcoming God’s rule in your life and in the world. Express your desire for God’s purposes to become your own.
- In response to verses 11-12, pray for your needs and the needs of others and for the wisdom to see his abundance. Ask for God’s protection and generosity to those who have wronged us, and forgiveness for the wrong we have done to others.
- In response to verse 13, express your desire to submit to the reign of God, the control of God, and the worship of God. Commit your gifts to God’s purposes, offering all that you are and all that is yours back to the Lord.

CHALLENGE – *live it out in the coming week*

This week find ways to pray the Lord’s Prayer in creative ways as a daily spiritual practice:

- Stop 3 times a day, close your eyes and say the Lord’s Prayer slowly.
- Morning and evening, pray the Lord’s Prayer aloud.
- Write the Lord’s Prayer out in your own words.
- Develop your own creative way to pray the Lord’s Prayer.

PRAY – share requests with one another

Share current joys, hopes, or challenges.
Commit to praying for one another throughout the week.