



# **BUILDING A KINGDOM CULTURE**

Part 9

# Building a Kingdom Culture

‘Becoming a **people** whose **beliefs** and **behaviours** are increasingly **aligned** with the **heart** of **God**...

**Revealing heaven** to each other  
and **to our world!**

*'Our Father who dwells in  
Heaven, May Your holy  
Name be honoured. Let Your  
Kingdom come, let Your will  
be done here in Elim Church  
Aberystwyth as it is in  
Heaven. Amen.'*

# Kingdom Culture



- Kingdom
  - The domain of the King... doing things His way
- Culture
  - ‘the ideas, customs, and social behaviour of a particular people or society’ (Oxford Dictionary)
  - ‘How we do things around here’

# Building a Kingdom Culture

1. Kingdom Culture
2. A People who OBEY
3. A People who COMMIT
4. A People who ARE AUTHENTIC
5. A People who BREAK BREAD TOGETHER
6. A People who GIVE WORTHY SERVICE TO THEIR KING
7. A People who OFFER THEIR LIVES
8. A People who ARE COMMITTED



# **A People Who... WORSHIP TOGETHER**

Building a Kingdom Culture 9

# 'Acts 2' Church

42 And **they devoted themselves to... the fellowship...**

46 **And day by day, attending the temple together** and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, 47 **praising God** and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

# A ROMANS 12:1 PERSON

- An Acts 2 Church is made up of Romans 12:1 people...

**Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God – this is your true and proper worship.**

## Romans 12:1-2 (MSG)

**“So here’s what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don’t become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You’ll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.”**

# True Worship

- is not a religious ritual  
**...is a response to mercy**
- is not (but does include) 45 mins on Sundays  
**...is whole life**
- is a daily choice  
**...to see His mercy**  
**... To offer your life in response to His mercy**

# A Community of Romans 12:1 People

- Including 45 minutes on a Sunday!
- Our celebrations are not meant to be a well or a waterfall where we come just to receive, but a coming together of worshipping individuals overflowing and exploding together in a fountainhead of praise, spurring one another on to glorify Him with our whole lives.

(thought inspired by Dan Wilt)



Worship isn't primarily about music, techniques, liturgies, songs or methodologies. It's about our hearts. It's about what and who we love more than anything

(Bob Kauflin, *Worship Matters*, p25)

Why Do We Meet Together?



# Why Do We Meet Together?

- To meet with God?
- To hear from the Word?
- To worship together?
- To 'fellowship'?
- To pray?
- To break bread?
- To be united?

# Hebrews 10

**19** Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, **20** by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, **21** and since we have a great priest over the house of God, **22** let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. **23** Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. **24** And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, **25** not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

# Hebrews 10

- let us consider how we may **spur** one another on toward love and good deeds...
  - (**paroxysmon**: stimulate, provoke, stir up)
- ... **encouraging** one another
  - (**parakalountes**: imploring, exhorting, entreating)

# Ephesians 5

... be filled with the Spirit, **19 speaking** to one another with **psalms, hymns**, and **songs from the Spirit**. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, **20** always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

- **Lalountes (speak, preach, voice)**
- **Psalmois: Song of Praise / Striking of the Strings**
- **Hymnois: From 'to celebrate' – son giving honour, thanks, praise**
- **Pneumatikais: realm of the spirit / unseen**
- **Ōdais: Spontaneous, unrehearsed melodies of praise**

# The Power of Unity

- Unity is not agreeing on everything  
... It is agreeing on something vital
- Unity is not liking everyone  
... It is loving everyone

Unity attracts the blessing of God (Psalm 133)

# Some Days it is a Choice

- 'I bring a sacrifice of praise into the house of The Lord' (Jeremiah)
- **Hebrews 13:15** Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. **16** And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

# It is Always a Good Choice!

- We worship The Lord together because of who He is and what He has done for us
- But it is good for us – and He know it!

**Psalm 92:1** It is good to praise the Lord and make music to your name, O Most High

# How We Do Things Around Here...

- Is it the leader's job to 'take' you into the presence of God?
- At ECF we seek to ensure our corporate worship is...
  - Biblically sound (good theology and doctrine)
  - Spirit led (in advance and in the moment)
  - Genuine
  - Aims to be excellent (in heart and skill)
  - Creates the opportunity for all to encounter God
  - Relevant to the people we seek to reach
  - Helps us LOVE GOD AND LOVE PEOPLE
- Regardless of style or personal preference let us seek to engage in our corporate times with all of our being.

# Corporate Praise & Worship...

- Is a blessing and privilege (be grateful)
- Is not our daily bread (contribute to it)
- Takes work and preparation (honour it)
- Is a special opportunity (make the most of it)
- Is heaven on earth

# This is What You're Made For

- Make a choice today, in Jesus, to worship...
- For the first time?
- Through the pain barrier?
- With fresh passion in view of His mercy?