



Equipping so that...we Root the Paradigm

# Unifying our Hearts, Praying Ephesians 3:16-19

Showcase our Sunday Morning - Equipping Time

# Unifying our Hearts, Praying Ephesians 3:16-19

## Preaching vs. Equipping

What is the best method for people to develop in the principles of Christ?

# Unifying our Hearts, Praying Ephesians 3:16-19

We meet on Sunday AM with an overall purpose:

Equip everyone, rooting and maturing them in the faith - Eph 4:11-16



# Unifying our Hearts, Praying Ephesians 3:16-19

## Practically

- Creation of tools - Jeff is creating Mastering the Scripture tools
- Myself and the team - doing our own work, some of it relating to Mastering the Scriptures
  - Sunday morning is platform for us to “show our own progress” while equipping our network of churches
- The Morning is setup to be a time of dialogue
  - We setup the room around tables
  - We always have a series of questions, taking the time for everyone to discuss



Equipping so that...we Root the Paradigm







# Unifying our Hearts, Praying Ephesians 3:16-19

For the purpose of rooting our global network family in TWCA, we will work together on memorizing Ephesians 3:16-19.

We will spend a portion of each morning, memorizing together this important prayer. We expect by the end of the conference, that everyone would have this prayer in their minds to draw upon in their life.

# Unifying our Hearts, Praying Ephesians 3:16-20

I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Ephesians 3:16-19 (NRSV)

# Unifying our Hearts, Praying Ephesians 3:16-20

- I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit,
- and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love.
- I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth,
- and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Ephesians 3:16-19 (NRSV)

I pray that according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit...

Ephesians 3:16





1970

1990

2010

2030

2050

2070

1st Generation - **Recovering** The Way of Christ and His Apostles paradigm

2nd Generation - **Rooting** The Way of Christ and His Apostles paradigm

Col 2:7 **rooted and built up in him and established in the faith**, just as you were taught..

**rooted** - **ρίζώ** - **rhizoo** - to be established, conceived of as if a plant being or becoming fixed in the ground - fix firmly, solid





# Reflections from Last Week

Being rooted in the paradigm means being able to withstand the winds of other teaching. If you are constantly being blown around (getting upset), then you probably aren't rooted in the paradigm. The winds come from two main places:

1. TV, books, radio preachers who claim things that seem too good to be true, such as prosperity, healing, etc. It is very tempting because they promising what we really want (and may not be getting through our own prayers), but it isn't very hard to identify their faults, so if we fall for them, we aren't well-rooted.
2. Our own traditions. If we keep getting blown around by the back-winds of our own pasts, then we aren't rooted in the paradigm. Of course, it takes work through things, but we know when it has happened when our good traditions cease to have an overtone of normative just because they are familiar.

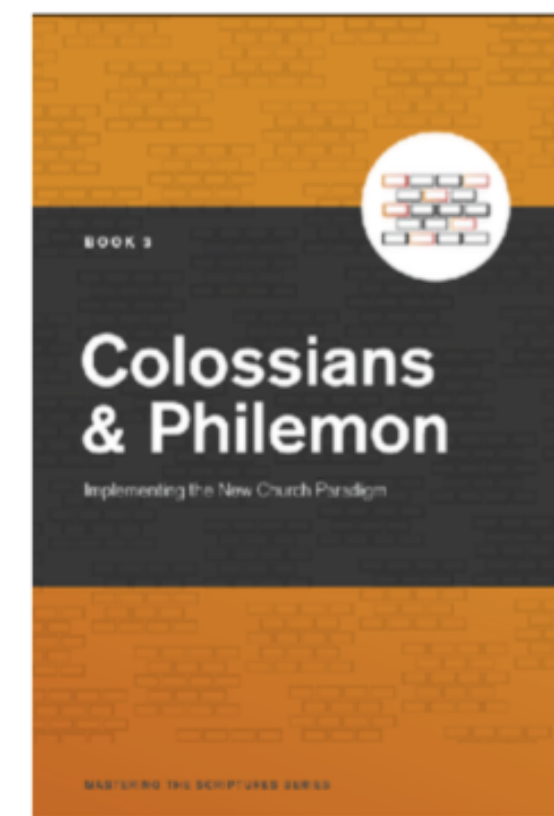
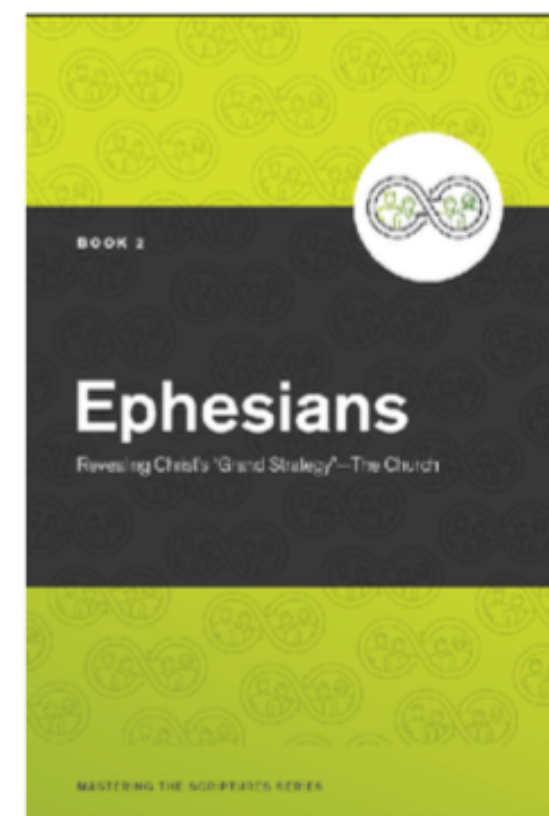
# Reflections from Last Week

Being rooted in the paradigm means that our theology and church practice is shaped more by the first 300 years of the church than the last 300 years. I don't think most people recognize how much Catholicism they still have.

# Paul's Early Letters



# Paul's Middle Letters





# Paul's Early, Middle and Later Letters

## Early Letters



### The Battle of Clarity for the Kerygma/Didache

- 3 years in Arabian desert, Paul
- Peter's five proclamations (Acts)
- 1st confrontation of Paul & Peter (Gal 2:1-10)
- 2nd confrontation of Paul & Peter (Gal 2:11-16)
- Jerusalem Council Decisions

- Writing to Galatians
- Writings to Corinthians
- Writings to Thessalonians
- Writing Romans - full treatment of Gospel

## Middle Letters



### Church is the Plan

Mystery Revealed! Ephesians

### Live Accordingly

Be rooted, established, built up! Colossians, Philemon

### Participate with Us

Participate as Churches with the work of apostolic teams! Philippians

## Later Letters



### Teach the "Way of Life"

1 Timothy Use your apostolic gifts, be self-disciplined, hold to the teachings

### Put the Churches in Order

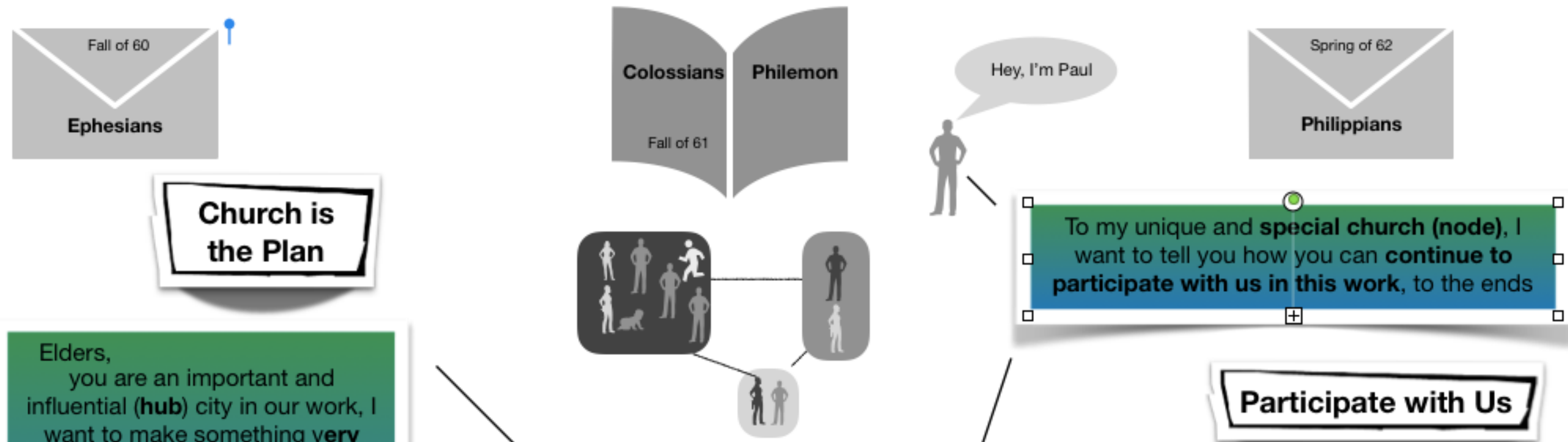
Titus Appoint Elders Instruct people to be devoted to Good Works

### Fully Entrusted, Equip Everyone

2 Timothy Follow and remember the kerygma/didache Expect people to follow their own teachings Work hard



# Paul's Middle Letters - Providing a Complete Picture of Christ's Instructions to the Churches



**Church is the Plan**

Elders, you are an important and influential (**hub**) city in our work, I want to make something **very clear** to you, it has been a **mystery in days past**, but now is clear for all the churches. The **church is the centerpiece** of the expansion and establishment of

To my unique and **special church (node)**, I want to tell you how you can **continue to participate with us in this work**, to the ends

**Participate with Us**

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of **your sharing in the gospel from the first day** until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you **hold me in your heart**, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense of the confirmation of the gospel. Philippians 1:3-7

**Live Accordingly**

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to **make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rules and authorities** in the heavenly places. Eph 3:7-10

Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, **so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught**, abounding in thanksgiving. See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world,





# Discussion Time

1. How do we fully participate in what God is doing? How can we be confident that we are joining Him and not just doing our own thing?
2. What does participation look like in today's definition of church? How does that compare to "The Way of Christ and His Apostles" paradigm?
3. What is the final result of not fully participating in Christ's work? What does it look like we when do fully participate in Christ's work?





## Full Picture of Participating with Christ

- Fully Participating in Christ's Plan
- Living a Full Abundant Life

Gospel,  
Kerygma

Teachings, Didache

- Gospel aligned with the teachings
- Fully understanding how to live in the gospel

How do we fully participate in what God is doing? How do we know if we are partially, nominally or fully participating?

1. Churches Function as Families
2. Leaders and elders of families shepherd and establish in the gospel/teachings
3. Churches participate with churches and apostolic gifted leaders around the world
4. Apostolic type leaders equip everyone for good works, good occupations, the work

### Resulting in:

- Our good works, occupations, homes, marriages, parenting, everything being aligned to the churches, participating with the global church
- Impacting our cultures, solving modern problems, hope with in us
- Fully connecting us to Christ's building of his global church from the first days until he comes again

## Today's Church Models and Systems

- **Seeker Friendly** - focused on initial acceptance of gospel
- **Purpose Driven** - lacks training of leaders into church families
- **Gospel Communities** - confusion on Christ's plan, strong on kerygma, unclear on participating in global missions
- **Healthy Church** - pragmatically driven, lacks full didache teachings
- **Simple Church** - based on simple relationships
- **House Church** - lacks local and global leadership, effective at authentic relationships
- **Saturation Church Planting, Disciple Making Movements** - goal is to finish evangelizing everyone, lacks roots in didache, high attrition
- **Cell, Organic Church** - churches lack the social structure of a family
- **New Age** - truth is relative, love everyone, lacks truth of Christ and His teachings

Our systems of "church" result in the following:

Everywhere in the world today, church is:

- a pastor, a Sunday morning event, praise songs
- attendance and/or baptism for salvation

### Resulting in:

- Good works for the sake of good works, live in siloed categories
- Jobs, homes, family decisions independent of church mission
- Mission work disconnected from local churches' culture, and apostolic teams
- Minimal impact on culture, not fully participating with Christ



## Aligning our Lives with Christ

Gospel, Kerygma

Gospel and Teachings Integrated

Lifetime renewing mind in the Teachings

Fundamental Teachings (Didache) for All  
People from the New Testament Letters

Participating with Christ in Impacting  
Individuals, Families, Neighborhoods, Cities,  
Civilizations, Cultures and the World! In our  
lives they see the fullness of Christ!

## Today's Church Models and Systems

Accept Jesus as your  
personal Savior

Attending church is the teaching

My denomination is the teaching

My teaching is whatever is taught in Sunday school

I really like the music here

The pastor and staff do it

I'm presbyterian because my parents were...

My pastor is good at preaching

I love their children programs

If I don't like the teaching, I just find another church

I just want my kids to be saved

Men's retreats are the best

Nothing gets between me and my family

I invest in people's lives in the fellowship hall

Participating with Christ is attending church,  
listening to sermons, singing the songs, learning in  
Sunday school, going on a mission trip.

Meanwhile remaining at an elementary  
understanding of the gospel/teachings doing well  
intentioned but haphazard good works that show the  
world the nominalism of our faith.