

Family Updates

1. Isaac and Erin scheduled to be induced this morning
2. International leaders begin arriving this week.
 - We committed \$80,000
 - We have given \$34,500
3. Prayers for our CityChurch and Summit
 - Steve will be providing prayer outlines and updates

Who, Where and Why

1. Michael and Caleb
 - This week: Bringing a Teaching
 - Remember: when paradigms shift, everything goes back to zero
 - Combining our gifts to team teach. Clarity/execution and teaching
2. Three parts of our local strategy to accomplish the work
 - Networking with churches locally
 - Meeting Pressing Needs of the City – local, national and global impact
 - **Improving our Communication within our CityChurch**
3. Eph 4:15-16: “We must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body’s growth in building itself up in love.”

Would you like to go to church with me?

- If you say yes, what is the typical expectation of what the time will look like?
 - Stage, screen, and “up-front” leaders
 - Prelude
 - Invocation
 - Hymn #375
 - Special Music
 - Intercessory Prayer
 - Gospel Reading
 - Sermon
 - Hymn #457
 - Offering and Announcements
 - Doxology

Would you like to go to church with Publius and me during the first century?

- We are going to Prisca and Aquila's house
- We are a little late arriving and thus coming in after the meal
- There appears to be around 13-15 people present
- This is Publius' first time at family time like this, so he is describing this meeting from his perspective

GOING TO CHURCH IN THE FIRST CENTURY



Robert Banks



- Prayer
- Singing
- Prayer/teaching about gifts from God
- More prayers
- Reciting scripture
- Teaching (dramatic) from a series
- Singing
- Teaching on gifts
- Exhortation on use of gifts
- Prophecy about gifts and their use
- Prayer/healing?
- Prayer
- Singing









“What should be done then, brothers and sisters? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up. If anyone speaks in a tongue, let there be only two or at most three, and each in turn; and let one interpret. But if there is no one to interpret, let them be silent in church and speak to themselves and to God.” ...



“Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others weigh what is said. If a revelation is made to someone else sitting nearby, let the first person be silent. For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all be encouraged. And the spirits of prophets are subject to the prophets, for God is a God not of disorder but of peace.” (1 Co 14.26-33)

Disorder in the Churches

- Paul: “Your use of gifts is disorderly, and not building up the body.”
- And so: what would Paul conclude regarding the use of gifts in *our* meetings?
- Remember: *that’s all the first Christians had!*

Review: Contribution

- 1 Co 14.26: “What should be done then, brothers and sisters? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up.”

Review: Teaching


- Built up understanding, resulting in living out of the faith
- Done by every believer, often in a dialogical (give-and-take) style





Quis dapes onerant
animas Sapientia
numis

Illustratione auctoris DD. FABRITIO CALLESTO Equo S. Stephani
In compendio de Amore doctores et Virtute amantem usque Commemorem
Aeterna multa est, tuas recitabit laudes, sua Secretis esse Alibi de Vale
T. D. additissimas Roma 1717

A photograph of two women sitting on a yellow cushioned sofa with a brown wicker base. The woman on the left is wearing a pink patterned top and is looking down at a handheld video game console. The woman on the right is wearing a white hoodie and glasses, also looking at a handheld video game console. The background is a plain, light-colored wall. A white text box is overlaid in the center of the image.

Participation, not posture!

Today in Pasadena

February 24, 1996

"For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 5:20)

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Opening Worship Music

Pasadena Church Choir
"Come, Christians Join To Sing"
by Christian Henry Bateman
piano accompaniment - Allen Andrews

Vocal Solo

Jon Graham
"Jubilee"
by Michael Card

Call to Worship

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God
Come, Thou Almighty King*

Mark McCulley
page 34
page 10

+Opening Prayer+

Be Thou My Vision

page 14

+Intercessory Prayer+

Church Life

Hymn

Who Is on the Lord's Side?

Tom Lapacka
Mark McCulley
page 8

Scripture Reading

Matthew 5:1-20

Gary Endres

Worship Music

Pasadena Church Choir
"We Believe"
by Nathan DiGesare and Dan Scott

Sermon

Dr. Bernie Schnippert
Christ as Fulfillment of the Law

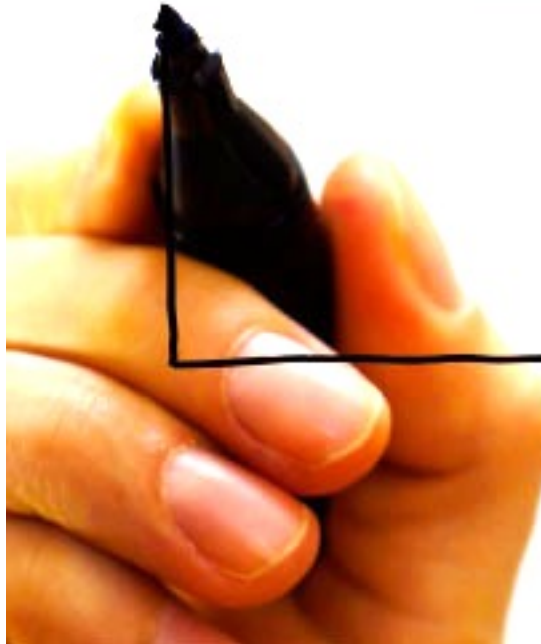
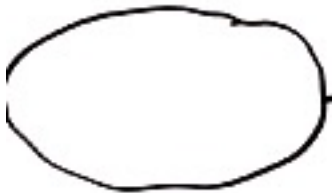
+Closing Prayer+

Hymn

All Hail the Power

Mark McCulley
page 272

+Final Blessing+



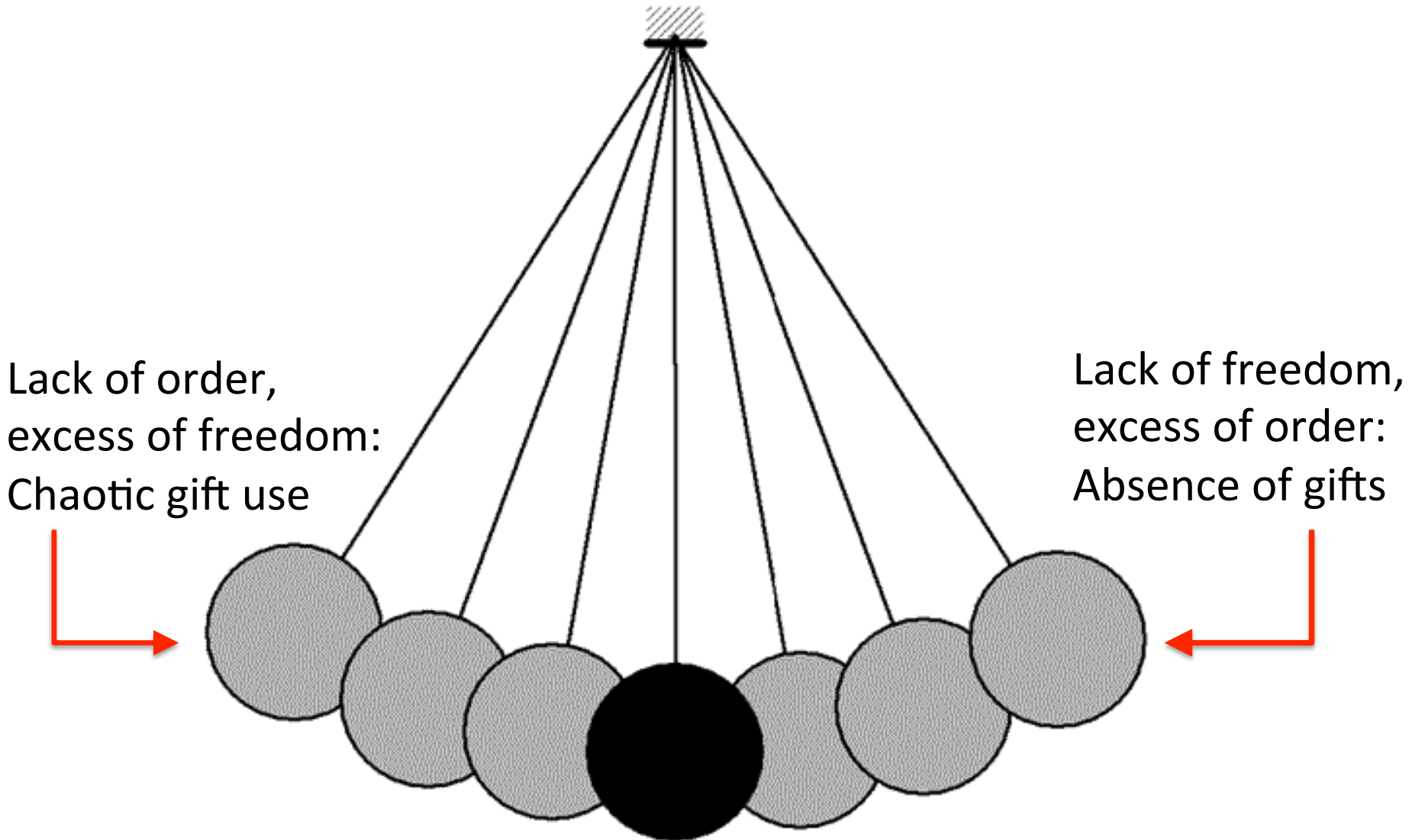
Early Church: Freedom with Order

- “There was, then, a great variety of different gifts and services manifested and activities developed in the symposium part of the Christian community in Corinth, but there was no fixed order in which all these activities had to be performed.” Alikin, The Earliest History of the Christian Gathering, 63
- 1 Co 14.26, 33: “What should be done then, brothers and sisters? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up. ... God is a God not of disorder but of peace.”

Increasing Structure

- By the third century: “In the first half of the third century, Christian gatherings were normally directed by bishops. ... The bishop conducts the Eucharist by saying the prayer and distributing the bread to the members of the community. ... The bishop does so during the morning and the evening gatherings of the community. He controls the whole ceremony and prescribes how things should be done; for instance, he can determine the number of psalms to be sung. When he begins to speak, everyone keeps silent. When the bishop is absent, the gathering is conducted by one of the presbyters or deacons.” *Alikin 75*

Pendulum Swing



How to do it?

- Reframe the leader's role:
 - From: program and run the time
 - To: equip and empower for participation
- Shift expectations:
 - From: meticulous preparation
 - To: spontaneous contribution

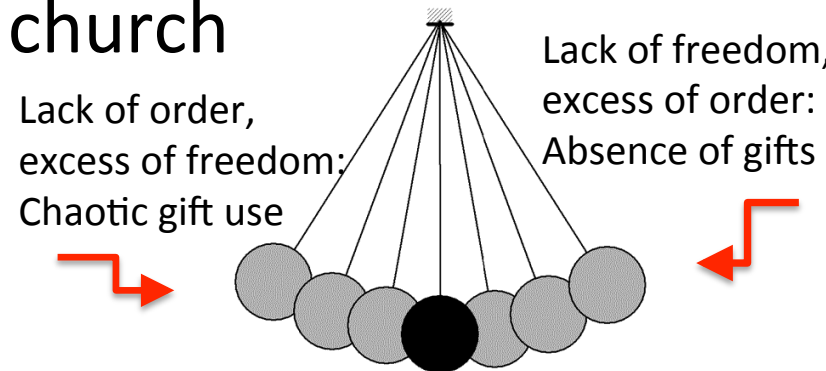
Answer and Question Time

- Where would you rate your church meeting?

- What does spontaneous participation look like?

- How can leaders be focused on equipping and empowering for participation?

- Share some of your questions.



Scott's reading of the church meeting will be available online for you to use.