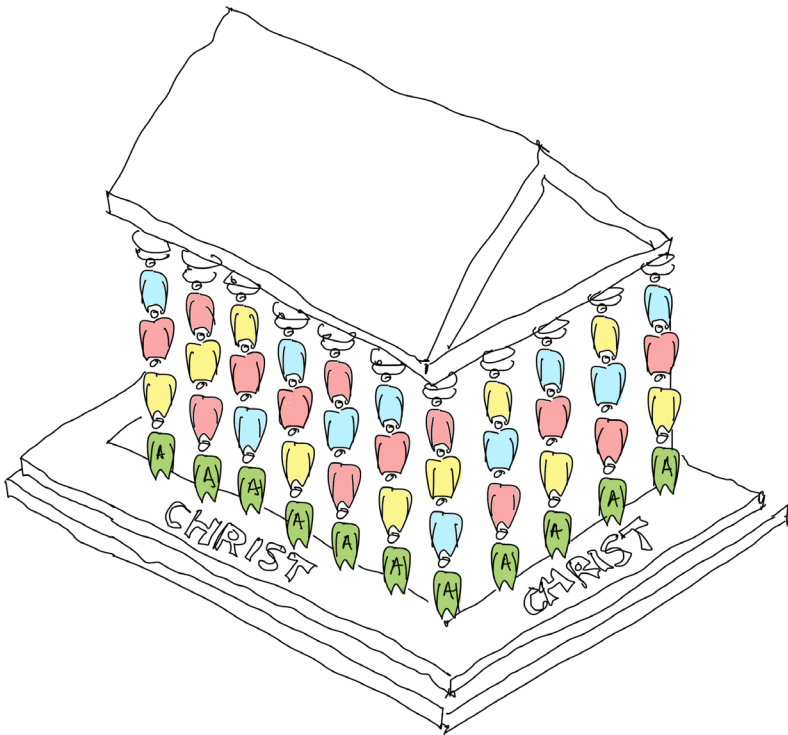


THE CHURCH

Understanding how we relate to each other as Christians



...you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. - Ephesians 2:19-21

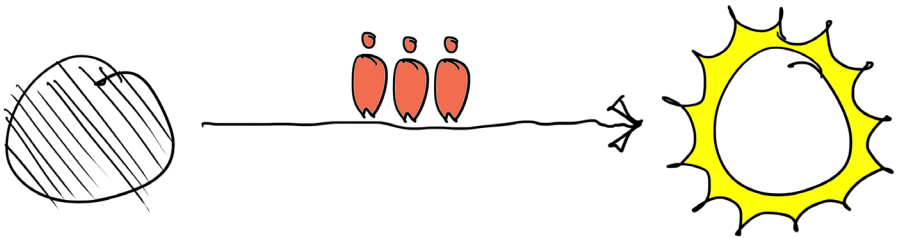
THE ESSENTIAL MIX: TRACK 2
27-28 OCTOBER, 2017

WHY DOES THE CHURCH MATTER?

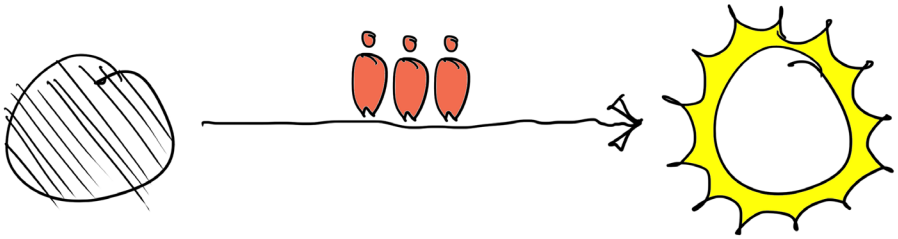
Understanding how church fits into the whole Bible story

God wants to have a people for himself

Israel 1.0 - the prototype gathering/church



Israel 2.0 - the real gathering/church



The 1st Exodus helps us to understand the 2nd Exodus

WHY ISN'T CHURCH MORE IMPRESSIVE?

Setting expectations for how impressive church should feel

The church looks unimpressive by worldly standards

..but God has done it deliberately.

Questions - 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

1. What does wisdom look like to the world?
2. What does wisdom look like to God?
3. Why is God's wisdom different to the world's?

So stop using worldly standards!

Questions

1. In what ways do we want to make the church look impressive by worldly standards? Why do we want that?
2. In what ways do we find it hard to trust that the gospel is powerful?
3. What would it take for us to become servants of all for the sake of the gospel?

WHY SHOULD I GO TO CHURCH?

Understanding what the point is of meeting together

We are strangers in this world

Don't look back

Do look foward

Therefore we need to help one-another do this

Questions

1. Where are the key dangers for us that might cause us to turn back? How do we help one-another?
2. How easy do we find it to look forward to our real home? How do we help one-another?
3. How important do we instinctively feel it is to grow as a Christian? Why / why not?

WHY DOESN'T THE CHURCH DO MORE?

Understanding why God is so focussed on building the church

Building the church is an eternal work

The church IS God's solution to the problems of this world

God does care about justice and righteousness...

But his solution isn't to solve it in this world now.

He's already proved that doesn't work.

So why is working for social justice now so appealing?

TIMETABLE

FRIDAY

5.30pm - Arrive

6.00pm - Talk 1 - Why does church matter?

7.30pm - Supper and party

SATURDAY

9.15am - Breakfast

10.00am - Talk 2 - Why isn't church more impressive?

11.15am - Coffee break

11.45am - Talk 3 - Why should I go to church?

1.00pm - Lunch

2.00pm - Activities

4.00pm - Coffee break

4.30pm - Talk 4 - Why doesn't the church do more?

5.15pm - Prayer and praise

6.00pm - End