AN EMPOWERING PRESENCE!

Pastor Augie Iadicicco

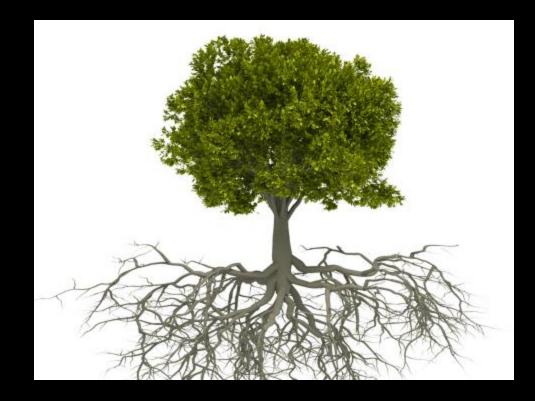
What's the connection between what goes on "IN HERE" on Sunday, and what goes on "OUT THERE" in the world all week long?



So far we've learned that the Church is .. 1. a life-changing, 2. mission-driven community



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Open Bibles to Acts chapter 4 (p. 969)



On their release, Peter and John <u>went</u> <u>back to their own people</u> and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said to them. (Acts 4:23)



When they heard this, <u>they raised their</u> <u>voices together</u> in prayer to God. "Sovereign Lord," they said, (Acts 4:24)



"you made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David: 'Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth take their stand, and the rulers gather together against the Lord and against his Anointed One. '(Acts 4:24-26)

Now, Lord, consider their threats and <u>enable your servants to speak</u> your word with great boldness. (Acts 4:29)



After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were <u>all filled with the Holy Spirit</u> and spoke the word of God boldly (Acts 4:31)



We come to church to encounter God.



The Church was meant to be a Spirit-filled, worshipping community, empowered by God for life in the real world.



Biblical Worship ...



"You made the heaven and the earth and the sea.... You spoke by the Holy Spirit.... You decided beforehand what should happen." (Acts 4:24-25).



<u>Connection Card:</u> one thing that would help people better encounter God in worship: _____



What am I doing to prepare for worship?



2. Biblically-grounded.



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"Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain?" (Psalm 2).



2. Biblically-grounded.

3. <u>Heart-felt</u>.



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"Lord...enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness." (Acts 4:29)



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<u>Connection Card</u>: "Creative Worship"



2. Biblically-grounded.

3. <u>Heart-felt</u>.

4. Leads to witness ...



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3. <u>Heart-felt</u>.

4. Leads to witness ...

"and [they] spoke the word of God boldly." (Acts 4:31)



Pattern: Gather for worship ...



Pattern: Gather for worship Scatter for witness.

