

LIVING IN a POST-CHRISTIAN WORLD	Recorded: 8 October 2023 Posted: 15 October 2023
VALUES: what is important	TRUTH & Meaning WORSHIP & Beauty AUTHENTIC COMMUNITY MISSIONAL JOURNEY

Key Scriptures

Acts 2:42-47

Matthew 4:23

John 1:1-14

Matthew 28:16-20

Luke 4:18-19

2 Timothy 3:15-17

John 13:34-35

John 16:6; 8:31-32

The gospel is a lot wider, deeper, longer, larger, bigger than we often imagine.

It is about following and obeying Jesus in everything.

- Why is it important that we grasp this?
- What are some of the ways we (either personally or as the church) tend to **not** do this?

TRUTH & Meaning

If you want to know who God is... look at Jesus.

If you want to know what it means to be human... look at Jesus.

If you want to know what love is... look at Jesus.

If you want to know what grief is... look at Jesus.

And go on looking until you're not just a spectator,
but you're actually part of the drama which has him as the central character.

N T Wright

- What do you think of what Wright says?

WORSHIP & Beauty

5 Words of Worship:

1. **Abba** (I Belong to You, Father)
 2. **Hallelujah** (God be praised)
 3. **Hosanna** (Save, please? Salvation has come!)
 4. **Amen** (So be it)
 5. **Maranatha** (Lord Jesus has come, Lord Jesus is come, Lord Jesus will come—
all 3 tenses in this one word)
- How would you describe worship?
 - What are the various elements of worship?

Authentic Community

What does community look like?

Why is community such a vital part of

- a) A healthy church
 - b) The kingdom of God
 - c) Understanding the gospel
- Why is the word “authentic” vital in describing community?
- What is lost when we fail to give ourselves to authentic community?

Missional Journey

We understand the Missional Church in this way:

- the people of God,
 - partnering with him
 - in his redemptive mission,
 - in the world.
- As we unpacked this what stood out to you?

Robert Farrar Capon said:

We are in a war between dullness and astonishment

- Agree or disagree? Why?

We are compelled by God’s love to live out and proclaim the gospel of Jesus,

- we engage culture with hope on all fronts,
- we advocate for the defenceless,
- we seek justice for the downtrodden,
- we lift up the downcast,
- we embody the fearless love of the risen Christ.

We celebrate the God who calls his people to start walking with him through frailty and brokenness.

One of the things that God does

- in the midst of pain,
- of hurt,
- of trauma
- of the difficulty of the journey

is he transforms that into sources of

- fellowship,
- joy,
- healing,
- and worship.

We believe the “*come together*” aspect of church / disciple life is vital; but the “*come together*” life is linked to the “*go into*” the world.

- How do we participate in this?