

Biblical Community

Him We Preach.....

Matthew 5:1 - The Message

When Jesus saw his ministry drawing huge crowds, he climbed a hillside. Those who were apprenticed to him, the committed, climbed with him. Arriving at a quiet place, he sat down and taught his climbing companions. This is what he said:

Matt 4:17 - 5:1

- Seeing people as Jesus sees them
- Boldly inviting people to follow Jesus into community
- Being watchful of people's response

Seeing people as Jesus sees them

- John 1:45-49
- Matthew 4:18-19
 - Two brothers -He was building community and they were already in relationship.....close familial relationship
 - Two Fishermen - He was going to fish for men and these two already had some natural skill and ability in fishing for something
 - Casting a net - Willingness to engage in the trade, not just sit back and wait for the fish to come to them. Had tools already.
 - Into the sea - They knew where fish were found and they were working there.
- Mark 8
- John 4

Invitation - To What?

- *Follow Me* - An invitation to leave the crowd and follow Jesus
- *I will make you* - An invitation to learn from him
- *Fishers of Men* - Make disciples

Response

“Immediately they left”

A word.....

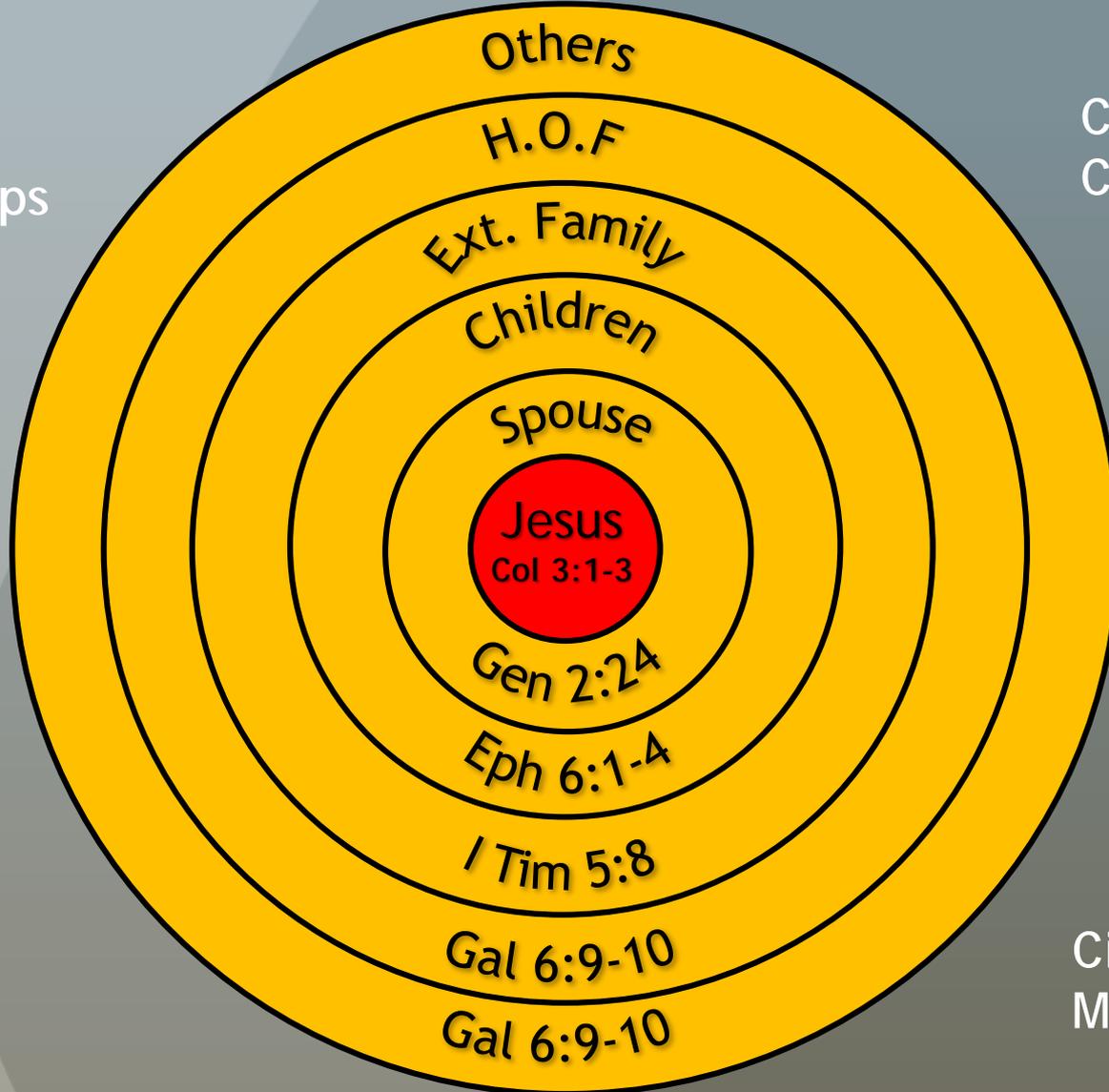
-of warning
-on creating climate
-on leading biblical community

A Practical Example

A Word of Warning - Priorities

Circles of Relationships

Circles of Community



Circles of Love

Circles of Ministry

A Word on Creating Climate

Col 3:12-17

- Compassion
- Kindness
- Humility
- Patience
- Forbearance
- Forgiveness
- (Above all) Love
- Unity
- Peace
- A place of dwelling for God's word
- Teaching and admonishing
- Wisdom
- Worship
- (Whatever you do, do this) Christ Exalted

A Word on Leading Biblical Community

Lessons from Joshua 1

A Practical Example

Closing and Summary

- See People as Jesus sees them
 - Love trumps all. You can't fake love. You have to learn to really love - biblically. People are God's treasured possession so we need to see them that way also. Openness, thankfulness, and Love. But above all Love!
 - God has given you relationships as seed beds for building biblical community. Start there. Remember if your Christianity doesn't work in your prayer closet or in your home - don't export it.

Closing and Summary

- Invite them into relationship and a community of disciple makers
 - We are Navigators - keep the focus on reproductive discipleship that exalts Jesus. Don't focus on growth, focus on discipleship. "When you focus on discipleship you get growth, when you focus on growth you end up with spiritually dead disciples". (Skip Gray)
 - We need to be clear in our calling, in our training, and in our sending. The focus needs to be on laborers. Remember it is sheep that give birth to lambs, not the shepherds. Teach them how to reproduce and how to train others to reproduce.
- Watch for Commitment
 - When you find biblical community - don't spectate, participate. The action is on the field, not in the stands. When you are building biblical community invest in your participants and challenge your spectators.