



SERMON NOTES

I Was Made For This

JD Small - January 5-6, 2019

Ephesians 4:11-16

"11 So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, 12 to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up 13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. 14 Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. 15 Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. 16 From him, the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work."

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"26 Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." 27 So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them." Genesis 1:26-27

"1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters." Genesis 1:1-2

"1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning. 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. 4 In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind." John 1:1-4

"14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1:14

We were made to be creative relational beings.

"18 The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him." Genesis 2:18

From the very beginning you and I were made for Creating, Building, Developing, and most importantly to do that out of a place of relationship.

In order for us to CREATE a healthy body, or local church, local gathering of disciples, it requires individuals living in RELATIONSHIP with others.

So what keeps us from engaging in those relationships?

1. Fear of Failure

We attach our successes and failures to our identity instead of keeping them where they belong attached to performance.

"15 If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. 16 And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. 17 This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. 18 There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is

not made perfect in love. 19 We love because he first loved us. 20 Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. 21 And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.” 1 John 4:15-21

Fear and Love cannot coexist and co-habitat in the same space.

“Daring is not saying, “I’m willing to risk failure.” Daring is saying, “I know I will eventually fail, and I’m still all in.”- Brene Brown

“14 For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. 15 The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.”16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children.17 Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ...” Romans 8:14-17

2. Fear of Vulnerability

“When we were children, we used to think that when we were grown-up we would no longer be vulnerable. But to grow up is to accept vulnerability... To be alive is to be vulnerable.” - Madeleine L’Engle

- Vulnerability is required for healing to take place in our lives.
- Forgiveness for our sins only comes from God, but Healing comes from confession and vulnerability.

“16 Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.” James 5:16

“Vulnerability is the emotion that we experience during times of uncertainty, risk and emotional exposure.” - Brene Brown

To create healthy lives we need relationship with others. And we must be willing and able to risk in those relationships in healthy ways.

3. Shame

Shame- The fear of disconnection because of me. I am afraid that you will disconnect from relationship with me, because of me, something I have done or said.

“25 Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.” Genesis 2:25

Here we see that we were created to be exposed and vulnerable, that we were created to see no fault in ourselves that we were created to see no fault in others that would keep another person from having a relationship with us.

“7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.” Genesis 3:7

Shame- I am afraid that if you see the real me you will not want to live in relationship with me and create with me.

“Shame. It’s the intensely painful feeling or experience of believing that we are flawed and therefore unworthy of love and belonging.” Brene Brown

When we feel shame we try to cover up, we build a false identity out of who we think others want us to be.

“18 There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. 19 We love because he first loved us. 20 Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. 21 And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.” 1 John 4:18-21