



# We Embarked on a Journey

“He guides me in *paths of righteousness* for His name’s sake.” - Psalm 23:3

“To be *conformed to the likeness of His Son*, that He might be the firstborn among many brothers.” - Romans 8:29



# Being a Christ-Follower

*There once was a church* where...

“The disciples were called *Christians* first at **Antioch.**” - Acts 11:26

*Little Christs* = Their given name; Observed

→ We can/must be that church today!



# Re-Focusing on Jesus

“Then a cloud appeared and enveloped them, and a voice came from the cloud: “This is my Son, whom I love. *Listen to him!*” Suddenly, when they looked around, *they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.*” - Mark 9:7-8





# Time for a **Pit Stop**

How's your progress so far?

“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, *full of grace and truth.*” - John 1:14

Has He been increasing in your life?



## Pit Stop vs. Rest Stop

The Journey requires our ongoing Focus...

“Let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and *let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.*” – Hebrews 12:1

“Run in such a way as to get the prize.”

- 1 Cor. 9:24



# Anatomy of a **Pit Stop**

*Where a racing vehicle stops during a race for refueling, new tires, repairs, mechanical adjustments, etc.*

One of the most important aspects of the race; Choosing the optimal pit strategy is crucial to having a successful race

→ You can't have a successful **Pit Stop** without an effective **Pit Crew**

# Time for a **Pit Stop**



PIT STOP

# Time for a **Pit Stop**



PIT STOP



# Anatomy of a **Pit Crew**

*As a race progresses, cars need to be refueled and worn tires need to be replaced...*

- Race teams plan a pit strategy prior to the start of every race
- A pit strategy is subject to change during the race to take into account the unpredictable events that happen

*As the journey progresses, we need to be...*



What's your **Pit Crew** look like?

→ New Series: **No One Walks Alone**

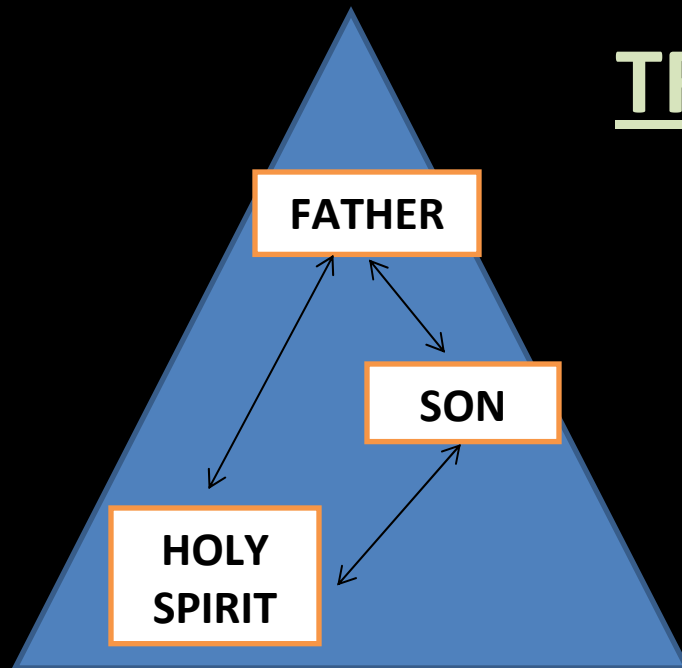
“The LORD God said, “It is *not good* for the man to be *alone*.” - Genesis 2:18

***Relationship is central*** to ***God's Very Nature*** and our becoming more like Him

“Then God said, ‘Let *us* make man in *our image*, in *our likeness*...’” – Genesis 1:26

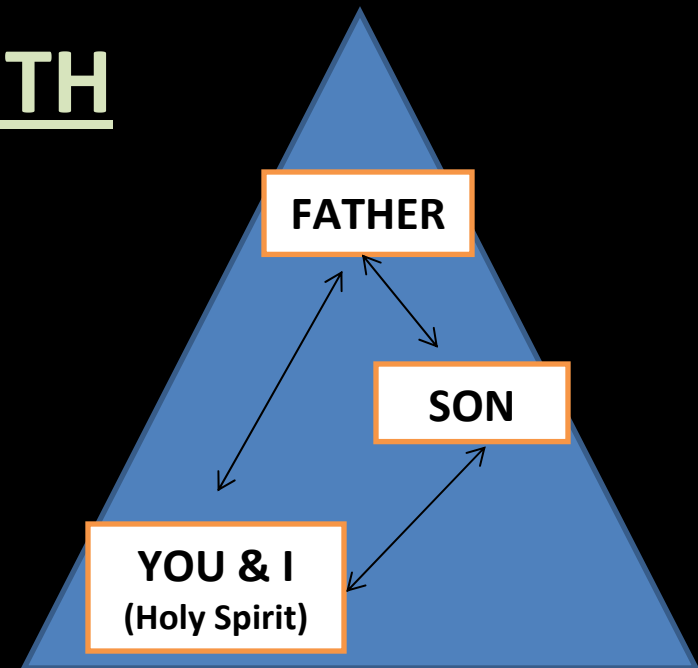
# Invited into Relationship

## TRUTH



**ETERNAL**

**Nature**



**RESTORED**

**Image**



# Our Relational 'Pathology'

- Deeply affected by the Fall (Lies)
  - Pride; Self-Centeredness; Blame; Shame
- Deeply affected by our Culture (more Lies)
  - Individualism; Achievement; Relocation
  - *Refrigerator Rights* – Dr. Will Miller

**DEPENDENT-----X-----INDEPENDENT**

**CHOOSING INTERDEPENDENCE**



# Time for a **Pit Stop** – No. CA





# The Relational Life of Christ

- His Community Group of 120 (Acts 1:15)
- His Small Group of 12
- 3 with Refrigerator Rights
  - Peter, James, and John
    - Transfiguration (Mark 9:2-8)
    - Synagogue Official (Mark 5:37)
    - Private Audience (Mark 13:3)
    - **Garden of Gethsemane** (Mark 14:32-40)

# Traveling Companions

- Paul & Barnabas (Son of Encouragement)
  - Acts 9:26-30 → Barnabas vouches for Paul
  - Acts 11:22-30 → Barnabas seeks Paul out
  - Acts 13:1-5 → Barnabas and Paul sent out
  - Acts 15:35-40 → Paul and Barnabas minister together again before separating
- Paul, Silas & Timothy; Barnabas & Mark
  - No One Travels Alone!





# Fast Food Friendships

***Spiritual Friendships Don't Just Happen!***

Enemies of Refrigerator Rights Relationships

- We Never Stop Moving (figuratively and literally)
- We Are Addicted to Distractions / Entertainment
- We Are Driven to Achieve and Accumulate
- We are Duped by Technology / Media

***Love Pays Attention! Love Makes Time!***

- Planned/Intentional and Spontaneous/Flexible
- Relational Meals = Environment and Ingredients



# Life Without a **Pit Crew**

## *Attempting the Journey Alone*

1. We will never reach God's objective for us
2. We will never realize our God-given potential
3. It will be a lot harder than it needs to be
4. It will be a lot less fun than it should be
5. We will eventually run out of gas
6. We will probably have a blow out or two
7. We may even crash and burn...

*There's only room for **one 'Crew Chief'***



# Cultivating Spiritual Friendships

## 1. Value Relationships – Life Transformation

- “The Renewing of your Mind” (Rom. 12:2)

## 2. Plan for/Invest in Relationships

- Family, Small Groups & Community Groups
- Schedule and Protect → Choose Wisely

## 3. Prioritize Relationships over Things

- Be Available; Be Inconvenienced
- ***Count the Cost of Lost Relationships!***

# Time for a **Pit Stop** – NV





# FACE to FACE Time

“I have much to write to you, but I do not want to use paper and ink. Instead, I hope to visit you and talk with you *face to face*, so that our joy may be complete.” - 2 John 1:12

“The LORD would speak to Moses *face to face, as a man speaks with his friend.*”

– Exodus 33:11



# Time for a **Pit Stop** – MD

“The LORD God said, “It is *not good* for the man *to be alone*.” - Genesis 2:18

*Relationship is central* to *God’s Very Nature* and our becoming more like Him

- We all need a **Pit Crew**; We all need to extend some **Refrigerator Rights**
- Have you Accepted the Invitation?
- Are you Committed to ‘Being There’?