

## Our Hiding Place

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### The Hiding Place Shows Us Our Need For One Another

#### **Hebrews 10:24-25**

<sup>24</sup> And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, <sup>25</sup> not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting *one another*, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

1. Paul was declaring Jesus was coming back so a key for them was to stay **connected**, meeting together.
  - \* Here we are over 2000 years later and the signs of the times – show us a **move** of the Holy Spirit and Christ's **return**.

As Paul's words were true back then, they are absolutely true for us **today**.

2. Let us spur one another to come **together** in worship, praise, prayer, and the study of the Word.

The word, spur, means to:

- **Encourage**, even to irritate one another to love and good deeds.
- The word indicates it's one of the most important things you do – to love **one another** and do well.

There are three areas God wants us to do this:

- Your **family**
- Your **marriage**
- The Body of Christ → the **Church**

Notice in America, these are the three attacks we face.

The world wants to re-identify:

- The **family**
- Your **marriage**
- The **Church**

3. Satan understands that if the family, your marriage, and the Church recognizes you have been **gifted** to be powerful in these areas, Satan's days and impact will be devastated.
4. When the Church especially becomes **connected** to one another, we become a power that no demon in hell or on earth can stop.
  - When we become this power, we: love, serve, and care for one another. Being offended is not in our **vocabulary**.

In America, if you can get **20%** of your church involved in accountability, you're doing well.

In Africa and Central America – **80-90%**

5. Jesus came and invested His life into ours and most of the words Jesus spoke, they were spoken in an intimate setting – today, we call it a **small group**.

Jesus invested into **11**, turned into **120**, quickly **3,000** got saved.

When you spend time in the hiding place, the secret place, you do what they did in Acts 2:

**Acts 2:42-47**

<sup>42</sup> And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. <sup>43</sup> Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. <sup>44</sup> Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, <sup>45</sup> and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need. <sup>46</sup> So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, <sup>47</sup> praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

- You know why many were getting saved?
  - The intimacy you get out of the hiding place teaches you how to **invest** into others, or lost people.
6. The moment you begin to give yourself away to others, you will become a **soul winner**.

Question: What were the early church committed to the relationships with other people?

They were committed to four things and you can only understand the importance of the four, when you spend time in the hiding place / a **relationship** with God.

- \* The moment people become **important** to you and you give of yourself to people → you become a soul winner.

The first:

A. The early church was devoted to the Apostle's **teaching**.

What does this mean to you?

Answer: You have to be devoted to **sound doctrine**.

Second:

B. The early church was devoted to the **fellowship**.

- They **partnered** with one another.
- They **cared** for each other instead of waiting for an apostle to do it or the pastor.

\* They needed the pastor to teach the Word; sound doctrine.

Third:

C. The early church was devoted to **breaking** the bread.

- You must eat **together**.
- Having people over to your house (**sharing food**).

Church family – we all have the gift of **hospitality**.

Social distancing is not our new norm – it goes against **kingdom** principles. When we gather again, our new norm is being passionate about being with one another, eating at the table - it's **supernatural**. Salvation and healing manifests when this takes place.

Here is the fourth thing they were devoted to:

D. The early church was excited and devoted to **prayer**.

7. At Valley, we believe in the power and anointing of being in **relationship** with one another.

There are also a couple things that keep you and I from spiritual intimacy:

A. There is a social trend today of **isolationism** and **disengagement**.

- In America, it is now normal to be lonely.

**Invest** yourself into others.

With many, it's this way - they say: I own my world and everyone must pay rent to be a part of my world.

The second reason we are not intimate with others:

B. We are afraid of becoming **vulnerable**.

### **John 8:12**

<sup>12</sup>Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

Darkness – misery (it's an **ignorance** of divine things that causes misery).

### **1 John 2:11** – same writer: John

<sup>11</sup>But he who hates his brother is in darkness and walks in darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

- We have broken relationships that we do not fix – some are **miserable**.

I am challenging you to build your life in relationships and make it **right**.

**Matthew 5:23-24**

<sup>23</sup>Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, <sup>24</sup>leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

When the second reopening happens, be **different** and choose not to be **offended**; repair what's broken and let's change our world.