

MY NOTES

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY!

Thank you for joining us today. This is a short note to let you know that we know what you are thinking: It is hot and cramped in this room. We want to acknowledge with you that yes, the front room is full, the kids rooms are full, and it can get warm. We are working on alleviating this right now by building our own building on the land just north of us (we must be out of this one by December 2016).

There is a lot that goes into the process of Element having a permanent home, but we hope that today you are first drawn to Jesus before you are overwhelmed by anything else. If it gets too hot, we may hand out popsicles to help you cool off and give you a sugar rush. If you would like a service that has open seats (and is cooler), you are invited to our 8:15am service. Please understand that all of these “challenges” are because of our love for Jesus, people, and growth that has come quickly. These are good things. We hope you will stay as we work to make more room for you to be part of the good thing Jesus is doing here. If you would like more information about our building process or how you can participate, you can visit: www.elementroots.org.

- The Element Team

Week 10

ACTS

A Name That
Confronts Us

TODAY'S VERSES:

Acts 4:1-22

Acts 4:12

Acts 4:1-4

Acts 3:6, 16

Acts 4:7, 10, 12

Acts 9:15

Acts 9:28

Matthew 7:21-23

Luke 6:46

John 1:12

1 John 3:1

UPCOMING @ ELEMENT

Planting Roots Update

We passed the public hearing & have our Planned Development Permit! Now moving to next set of permits.

Good Friday Service

March 25th from 5:30-9:30pm, open house style. Children are welcome to join, no childcare available.

Easter Services

Saturday, March 26th, 6pm with Nursery Care and Sunday, March 27th at 8:15, 9:30 & 11am with full children's programs at all three.





THE CHURCH IS MADE UP OF JESUS' SERVANTS

We are taking three weeks to look at the identities that we receive from God, and how that affects true Gospel Community.

How is your service and sacrifice for Jesus into others your spiritual act of worship?

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We are servants of Jesus who serve Him by serving others around us.

Fully God—fully human, Jesus took on the posture of a servant. He gave His life, even unto death, so that others could experience salvation, peace and restoration. Jesus said, “I am among you as one who serves...” All those who follow Jesus are called to serve in the same humility. For us, this means joyfully submitting to Jesus as Lord. We do whatever He leads us to do, whenever He tells us and wherever He wants us to do it. (Matthew 20:25-28; 25:31-46; John 13:1-17; Philippians 2:5-11; 1 Peter 2:16)

We submit to Jesus as Lord.

If I believe the Gospel, I am being set free from slavery to false gods that keep me imprisoned, don't satisfy me and eventually beat me to death. All of us are serving a master or many masters. The question isn't “Am I a slave”, but “To whom am I a slave?” When I believe and live out my gospel identity as a servant of Jesus, He is my master and He sets me free to live life as it should be lived. I now belong to Him as His servant and whatever I do, I do as unto Him.

We lead people to Jesus by living as servants displaying His rule and reign in our lives.

As the servants of Jesus we are a holy nation – a city within a city. We give a foretaste of what the eternal city will be like under the rule and reign of Jesus Christ. Living as servants to the King who serve others as He served us, presents a tangible witness to Jesus' Kingdom and to the power of the gospel to change us. We serve in such a way that it demands a Gospel explanation – lives that cannot be explained in any other way than by the Gospel of the Kingdom of Jesus. If we don't serve others as Jesus served us it is because we have forgotten how we have been served by Him, or we don't really know Him in the first place (Matt 25:31-46).

We submit to Jesus as Lord and serve one another as though we are serving Jesus.

Week 10 – Acts 4:1-22: A Name that Confronts Us

Element is heading through the book of Acts in an effort to better understand the early church (and what the church today should be as well). The book of Acts is full of what are known as prescriptive texts, that means it explains what happened. Acts shows us a good pattern to follow to be a church that honors Jesus.

Who is the person with the strangest name you have ever met?

What were they like?

Have you ever met anyone that their name truly reflects who they are?

The early opposition against the disciples preaching the gospel is shown in Acts mainly from religious people. The religious people were against what was known as the Oral Law, the Oral Law was a way to apply the Scriptures to every day life.

Read Acts 4:8-12.

What does it mean to use God's name in vain?

What does it mean live in Jesus name?

In an oral culture, like the Israelite's, what you say and who you are were bound together, they were one thing. Words and ideas in a literate culture, like we live in today, have a life of their own because they become separated from the person who said them. But in an oral culture a NAME is inseparable from the person. A name is given to someone to describe their deepest essence.

The Gospel gives a new relationship with God and a new identity, but that doesn't mean the Gospel is done with us because the Gospel continues to work in us. Keller says, “the two marks of spiritual reality are *submission of your will to his and a grasp of the grace of God.*” John 1:12 *But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.*

Is there some part of your life that you only use Jesus' name but do not live in Jesus' name?

Are there any lies that need to be exposed so the real Jesus can be invoked to bring change everything?

How can we live as John and Peter and speak Jesus' name into the lives of those around us?