

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 8

ACTS

Compassion That Is Bigger Than Us

TODAY'S VERSES:

Acts 3:1-10

James 5:14-15

John 5:2-3

Philippians 3:13-14

Isaiah 35:6

Romans 5:12

1 Corinthians 11:30

John 5:14

UPCOMING @ ELEMENT

Baptism Information

Meeting: Today after each service. Baptisms will be April 17th at 1pm.

Daylight Savings Next

Sunday: Set clocks forward 1 hour

Good Friday Service

March 25th from 5:30-9:30pm.

Easter Services

Saturday, March 26th, 6pm and Sunday 8:15, 9:30 & 11am.





THE CHURCH IS MADE UP OF GOD'S CHOSEN FAMILY

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

In light of being a family of God, how do you need to bring reconciliation, healing, and love to those in your Family?

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Soma Communities*

We are children of God who live and care for each other as a family.

We are God's chosen people – His family – set apart to live in such a way that the world would know what He is like. Through faith in Jesus we believe we are Children of God and brothers and sisters with each other. As God's family we see it as our obligation to personally care for the needs of one another – both physically and spiritually. We disciple, nurture and hold each other accountable to Gospel life together. We do this through regularly gathering together for celebration, consistent involvement in each other's lives and loving others in the path of our life like the Father loved us. (Genesis 12:1-3; John 1:12-13; Romans 12:10-16)

We worship God as Father.

We are God's Children (John 1:11-13) who are adopted and fully accepted and loved apart from any good behavior. When I believe the Gospel I know I have a perfect Father who loves me and accepts me, not because of what I've done, but because of what Christ has done. This leads me to worship God as Father and obey His word because I love Him. I don't obey God in order to be loved by Him. I obey God because He loved me while I was still His rebellious enemy.

We show ourselves to be Jesus' disciples by our love for one another.

As children of God we love one another as brothers and sisters. Jesus said this is the way the world will know that we are His disciples – by our love for one another. Paul said we were to be imitators of God as dearly loved children who love one another (Eph 5:1-2). The primary means by which we show the world what God is like and give tangible proof of the Gospel's power to save is through our love for one another (John 13:35). If we don't love one another, we show that we don't know and love God (1 John 4:7-21)

We submit to God as our Father and love one another as brothers and sisters.

Week 8 – Acts 3:1-10: Compassion That Is Bigger Than Us

Element is spending the next few months in the first half of the book of Acts in order to help grow us deeper into the type of church Jesus is calling us to be.

Read Acts 3:1-10. How do you tend to view stories about healing?

One of the things Peter does is look intently at the man who was crippled before healing him. In John 5 Jesus heals a man who didn't really want to get better, the man used his infirmity to gain a sympathetic ear to his plight. Getting better is not always what we truly want in our lives. Many times we want our circumstances to change, but we don't want our responsibility to change. When Jesus (in John 5) and Peter (in Acts 3) bring about these healings, the two men have two very different reactions. One doesn't say thank you and brings trouble upon Jesus, while the other goes directly into the temple and praises God.

When thinking about the problem areas in your life, do you really want to get better?

Do you want your circumstances to change or do you want your life to change?

In our world, sickness can be attributed to three main reasons:

- 1) A fallen world – There is death and sickness because of Adam's sin and our own; we are the cause. While there is not always a causal effect, we can usually go back to the beginning and see where it starts: our fallen world.
- 2) Personal sin – Sometimes there is a direct causal result from our sin to our sickness. Our sin has consequences even if our world doesn't believe that to be true. In God's economy sin can lead to pain, turmoil, and physical disability. Sin will not stop until it kills you or you rest in the fact that Jesus has defeated it.
- 3) Spiritual forces – The scriptures take very seriously the fact that there are forces in this world that are spiritual and not all of them are good. Praying biblically for people should also entail praying against our enemy, his servants, and their works.

How have you seen God heal in past?

Who would you say you are more like the man in John 5 or the man in Acts 3?

How can we help grow one another to be more like the man in Acts 3?