



1. God's Faithful Presence
The Vineyard Church of Conroe
Raymond McDonald
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Sermon Notes

¹⁵ Then Moses said to him, "If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. ¹⁶ How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?" Exodus 33:15-16

God's Faithful Presence IS WHAT WE ALL NEED

"Faithful presence names the reality that God is present in the world and that he uses a people faithful to his presence to make himself concrete and real amid the world's struggles and pain." - David Fitch

I. Genesis 3:8 ESV

⁸ And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

Faithful Presence HAS ALWAYS BEEN GOD'S PLAN

She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³ "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us"). Matthew 1:21-23

Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth," for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. ² I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. Revelation 21:1-3

II. Ephesians 1:22-23 MSG

²²⁻²³ **At the center of all this, Christ rules the church. The church, you see, is not peripheral to the world; the world is peripheral to the church. The church is Christ's body, in which he speaks and acts, by which he fills everything with his presence.**

Faithful Presence IS THE CHURCH'S MAIN FUNCTION

Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst? 1 Corinthians 3:16

III. Matthew 28:19-20

¹⁹ **Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."**

Faithful Presence IS DEMONSTRATED THROUGH DISCIPLINES IN ALL AREAS OF LIFE

1. Discipline of the Lord's Table
 2. Discipline of Reconciliation
 3. Discipline of Proclaiming the Gospel
 4. Discipline of Being with the "Least of These"
 5. Discipline of Being with Children
 6. Discipline of Five-fold Ministry
 7. Discipline of Kingdom Prayer
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- A. Church - TOGETHER
 - B. Neighborhood - WE ARE HOST
 - C. World - WE ARE GUEST