

G R O W I N G as a **G R O U P**

“#3 - Organizational Growth”

The Vineyard Church of Conroe

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Sermon Notes

Kingdom Growth IS A GROUP PROCESS

*And you are living stones that God is building into his spiritual temple.
1 Peter 2:5 NLT*

Kingdom Growth...

INCORPORATES ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

*The world is unprincipled. It's dog-eat-dog out there! The world doesn't fight fair. But we don't live or fight our battles that way—never have and never will. The tools of our trade aren't for marketing or manipulation, but they are for demolishing that entire massively corrupt culture. We use our powerful God-tools for smashing warped philosophies, tearing down barriers erected against the truth of God, fitting every loose thought and emotion and impulse **into the structure of life shaped by Christ**. Our tools are ready at hand for clearing the ground of every obstruction and building lives of obedience into maturity. 2 Corinthians 10: 3-6 MSG*

I. Genesis 1:1-2 - Chaos Ordered

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.² Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

Kingdom Organization CREATES A CONSISTENCY FOR CONNECTION

Allowing all A CHANCE TO COMMIT TO COMMUNITY

That day about three thousand took him at his word, were baptized and were signed up. They committed themselves to the teaching of the apostles, the life together, the common meal, and the prayers. Acts 2:41-42 MSG

II. Genesis 1:3-5 - Uncertainty Dispelled

³ And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. ⁴ God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.

Kingdom Organization VERIFIES VALUES & VISION

Allowing all TO KNOW WHERE THEY STAND & WHERE THEY ARE GOING

You are my friends when you do the things I command you. I'm no longer calling you servants because servants don't understand what their master is thinking and planning. No, I've named you friends because I've let you in on everything I've heard from the Father. John 15:14-15 MSG

III. Genesis 1:6-8 - Ambiguity Resolved

⁶ And God said, “Let there be a vault between the waters to separate water from water.” ⁷ So God made the vault and separated the water under the vault from the water above it. And it was so. ⁸ God called the vault “sky.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day.

Kingdom Organization PROVIDES A PLAN FOR PARTICIPATION

Allowing all TO PLAY

God's various gifts are handed out everywhere; but they all originate in God's Spirit. God's various ministries are carried out everywhere; but they all originate in God's Spirit. God's various expressions of power are in action everywhere; but God himself is behind it all. Each person is given something to do that shows who God is: Everyone gets in on it, everyone benefits. All kinds of things are handed out by the Spirit, and to all kinds of people!
1 Corinthians 12:4-7 MSG

IV. Genesis 3:7-10 - Structural Stressors

⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves. ⁸ Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the LORD God called to the man, “Where are you?” ¹⁰ He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so

I hid.”

Kingdom Organization **IS DISRUPTED BY FEAR**

a. Fear of **REJECTION**

b. Fear of **FAILURE**

c. Fear of **LOSING YOUR IDENTITY & DESTINY**

*No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us. ³⁸ And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God’s love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, **neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow**—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God’s love.³⁹ No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Romans 8:37-39 NLT