

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

## **“#5 - Growing Theologically”**

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 INFORMS OUR THEOLOGY**

*We ask God to give you complete knowledge of his will and to give you spiritual wisdom and understanding. <sup>10</sup> Then the way you live will always honor and please the Lord, and your lives will produce every kind of good fruit. All the while, you will grow as you learn to know God better and better. Colossians 1:9b-10 NLT*

##### **I. Theology Proper - the study of God**

#### **Kingdom Theology REVEALS GOD AS LOVING AND RELATIONAL**

**God is trinity (community) and invites us into relationship**

**God is overflowing in kindness, love, grace and mercy**

**God has anger and wrath that are in balance with His goodness**

*I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. Ephesians 1:17*

**<sup>13</sup> This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup> And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup> If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. <sup>16</sup> And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever**

## ***lives in love lives in God, and God in them. 1 John 4:13-15***

<sup>8</sup> The LORD is compassionate and merciful, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. <sup>9</sup> He will not constantly accuse us, nor remain angry forever. <sup>10</sup> He does not punish us for all our sins; he does not deal harshly with us, as we deserve. <sup>11</sup> For his unfailing love toward those who fear him is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth. <sup>12</sup> He has removed our sins as far from us as the east is from the west. <sup>13</sup> The LORD is like a father to his children, tender and compassionate to those who fear him. Psalm 103:8-13  
NLT

## **II. Anthropology- the study of Humankind**

### **Kingdom Theology TELLS US THAT CREATION IS GOOD YET IN NEED OF REDEMPTION**

So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them...<sup>31</sup> God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day. Genesis 1:27;31

***For it's by God's grace that you have been saved. You receive it through faith. It was not our plan or our effort. It is God's gift, pure and simple. You didn't earn it, not one of us did, so don't go around bragging that you must have done something amazing. <sup>10</sup> For we are the product of His hand, heaven's poetry etched on lives, created in the Anointed, Jesus, to accomplish the good works God arranged long ago. Ephesians 2:9-10 VOICE***

## **III. Christology- the study of Christ**

### **Kingdom Theology IDENTIFIES JESUS AS FULLY MAN AND FULLY GOD AND OUR REDEEMER**

Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation, <sup>16</sup> for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth... Everything was created through him and for him... <sup>19</sup> For God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ, <sup>20</sup> and through him God reconciled everything to himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ's blood on the cross.  
Colossians 1:15-16, 19-20 NLT

## **IV. Pneumatology - the study of the Spirit**

### **Kingdom Theology AFFIRMS THE HOLY SPIRIT'S ROLE IN REVELATION & RE-CREATION**

<sup>13b</sup> And when you believed in Christ, he identified you as his own\* by giving you the Holy Spirit, whom he promised long ago. <sup>14</sup> The Spirit is God's guarantee that he will give us the inheritance he promised and that he has purchased us to be his own people. He did this so we would praise and glorify him. Ephesians 1:13b-14 NLT

So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. <sup>17</sup> For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. <sup>18</sup> But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Galatians 5:16-18

**But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup> And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you. Romans 8:9-11**

#### V. Ecclesiology - the study of the Church

### **Kingdom Theology EXPRESSES ITSELF IN THE LOVING COMMUNITY OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. 1 John 4:12

**“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, <sup>21</sup> that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. <sup>22</sup> I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— <sup>23</sup> I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. John 17:20-23**

#### VI. Eschatology - the study of End Times

### **Kingdom Theology PROCLAIMS GOD'S REDEMPTION BOTH IN THE PRESENT AND THE ULTIMATE FUTURE**

**I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. <sup>19</sup> For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. <sup>20</sup> For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup> that the creation itself will be**

***liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God. Romans 8:18-21***