

# Building Great People – Part 2

## Make Room

January 10, 2021

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### Main Scripture

Galatians 4:18-19

<sup>18</sup> It is always good to be made much of for a good purpose, and not only when I am present with you, <sup>19</sup> my little children, for whom I am again in the anguish of childbirth until Christ is formed in you! (ESV)

### Supporting Scriptures

Hebrews 1:1-2

Matthew 21:12-14

Hebrews 13:20-21

### Introduction

- Watching a movie
  - Not paying attention and trying figure out what happened and what is happening
- Reading a book
  - Not reading but just looking at the words
  - Find the last spot you remember actually understanding what you were reading.

The start of a new year can feel like this:

- Looking back at the year and trying to figure out what the point of 2020 was
- Scrambling to figure things out for the new year.

Finding yourself saying:

- “Here I go again”
- I need to figure this out, I need to solve this, I need to get better at this or that
- Everything ends up on you, your strength, your ability to keep yourself from failing, falling and to try and keep yourself happy at the same time trying to provide for yourself and for your family.

### The Need to Make Commitments

- We make commitments that will make us feel better about ourselves for five minutes
- We will make claims that we think will impress God and people
  - Getting crushed under the weight of it all as the year continues
  - We get crushed under the weight of trying to relate to God based on our performance
    - How are you feeling towards God? Do you feel like you need to do better? Are you starting the year off by placing trust in your ability to carry out what you were never meant to carry?

### Context to the Galatians

- The way they relate to God derives from their performance
- Group “Judaizers”
  - Their claim: true Christians follow the law
    - Specifically: circumcision.

## Paul's Rebuttal

- How can the flesh finish what was started in the Spirit?
- Abraham: faith counted him as righteous
  - Before the law
- Hebrews 1:1-2  
Throughout our history God has spoken to our ancestors by his prophets in many different ways. The revelation he gave them was only a fragment at a time, building one truth upon another. But to us living in these last days, God now speaks to us openly in the language of a Son, the appointed Heir of everything, for through him God created the panorama of all things and all time. (TPT)
- Galatians 4:19  
“until Christ is formed in you”
  - Given the context of the whole letter, this verse cannot imply more human effort, work and merit
  - Another way to say it, “until you take the shape of Christ”
    - The implication:
      - The efforts of your hands will not shape you into Christ.

### “Formed”

- In the same nature
- To be or become developed into a distinctive entity
- Paul's goal: for Christ to be formed in them
  - Conformed to the image of Christ - this is a spiritual leader; not a coach and not a motivational speaker
  - When someone cares about you becoming like Christ over everything else — they do not only care for your next 5 or 50 years but for your next 5000 years.

### We are still in need of saviour!

- What if we stopped getting surprised every time we came to the end of our resources, our effort, and self-righteousness?
- What if we actually made room for moments where we had no choice but to depend on the God who raises the dead, comforts and heals the hurting?
- Why are the ones who believe in a resurrected saviour trying to live a life where they do not need His saving?

## It Impacts our Relationship with Jesus

Our prayers become patterned after our insecurities and we start praying for all the ways we do not want God to show up.

Lean into God, the one who we believe spoke and galaxies, planets and stars formed. Let us make room for Him to actually move!!!

Paul states that God's power is perfect in our weakness (2 Corinthians 12:9). That means we rob our life of the power of God when we try to do things based on our own strength.

So how do we depend on His strength and grace?

## Matthew 21:12-14 - Jesus Clears the Temple

What's the point?

- Temple = house of prayer
  - A place to connect with God
- They were hindering people from connecting with God
  - Certain coins required
  - Specific sacrifices with markup
  - Giving loans.

### The Point of This Moment

Jesus is passionate about one thing more than any other, and that is, making room for you to connect with God.

Matthew 21:14

Now there was room for the blind and crippled to get in. They came to Jesus and he healed them. (MSG)

- Then there was room for the blind and crippled
  - They came to Jesus and He healed them
- Spiritual implication
  - Blind and crippled areas of our lives
- What have we put in the way?
  - Jesus wants to make room so that He could access
  - Be able to connect with you even when:
    - There is spiritual blindness
    - You feel crippled.

The Galatians were putting rules and regulations in their own way, keeping themselves and others from experiencing Jesus

- i.e. when I am no longer aware of God's presence in my life, I will manufacture it.

You are the temple → the dwelling place of God - the place where the word becomes flesh

- What your soul needs is less of what hinders you from connecting to Jesus
  - You need to make room for Jesus
- What you do not need is more room for
  - Traditions
  - Culture
  - Doubts and fears
- Faith begins where our power ends
- Until more of you makes room for more of Him

Hebrews 13:20-21

Now may the God who brought us peace by raising from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ so that he would be the Great Shepherd of his flock; and by the power of the blood of the eternal covenant may he work perfection into every part of you giving you all that you need to fulfill your destiny. And may he express through you all that is excellent and pleasing to him through your life-union with Jesus the Anointed One who is to receive all glory forever! Amen! (TPT)

## Questions & Discussion

1. Why is it so easy to become people who relate to God based on our performance? How do we get away from that?
2. When are you most aware of God's presence and activity in your life?

### **Discussion:**

1. Write down the biggest thing you are believing God for. If this were to happen, would you definitely feel God's presence and activity in your life?
2. Write down the smallest thing you are believing God for. How would you feel if this were to happen?
3. Action: Think of other small ways you can trust God and train yourself to be aware of His presence and activity in your life—this is you making room for Jesus in a small but powerful way.