

# Sermon Notes

## Our Family - Rom 1:12

### September 20, 2020

#### I. Introduction

- a. lots ask... what can I expect at AL... have to see what it's like in God's house first... then we can see what it should be like in our house... pray...  
**John 10:10**... "I have come so you may have life... life more abundantly..."  
*zoe... absolute fullness of life which belongs to God; real and genuine; active and vigorous; blessed; even in this world...*  
*perissos... exceeding measure; over and above; more than necessary; exceeding abundantly; much more than all; superior, extraordinary; more excellent...*  
**Psa 36:8**... "abundance is in Your house..."

#### II. Our Family

- a. when people ask what our house is like... always tell them to come see for themselves... so much more effective to be here than send you to FB, YT, or website... but good description is found in purpose, vision, mission...
- b. **Purpose**  
*object toward one strives or for which something exists... obviously, there are many... but our main purpose for meeting together is found in scripture...*  
**Rom 1:12**... "when we get together... I want to encourage you in your faith... but I also want to be encouraged by yours..."  
**Heb 10:24-25**... "think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love... do not neglect meeting together... but encourage one another..."  
*parakaleo... comfort, instruct, console, strengthen, teach...*  
*present active... continuous; subject performs action to accomplish...*
- c. get beat up enough in world... don't need to come to church and get beat up there too... pastor should shepherd sheep (*care, guide, guard*), not beat them...  
**2Tim 3:16**... "all scripture... teaching, rebuking, correcting, training..."  
**Acts 13:39** AMP... "everyone who believes... freed of guilt from all things..."  
**Rom 8:1**... "no condemnation now exists for those in Christ Jesus..."  
**1Pet 2:6**... "one who believes in Him will never be put to shame..."
- d. **Vision**  
*declaration of goals... road map to plans, hopes, dreams... doctrines can divide, vision unites... Find Family, Find Jesus, Find Grace... faith works equal to the measure of God's vision (will) you know for your life...*  
**Neh 2:20**... "the God of heaven Himself will prosper us..."  
**Jer 29:11**... "I know the plans I have for you... plans to prosper you..."  
**Acts 13:17**... "God made the people prosper (very summit of opulence)..."  
**3John 2**... "wish above all things... you prosper and be in good health..."

**The local church enables the world to look upon the canvas of God's people and see an authentic painting of Christ's love and holiness, not a forgery. Once you choose Christ, you must choose His people, too. It's a package deal. You have to choose the whole family... which you do thru a local church. Jonathan Leeman**

- e. **Vision - Find Family**  
why family first... God's idea from beginning... put Jesus in family... easier to find Jesus when we find family first... family comes before ministry...  
**Gen 2**... "no helper was found... made woman... became one flesh..."  
**Psa 68:6**... "God places lonely in families... sets prisoners free... gives joy"
- f. God wants us to find family in church... encourage, love, serve, comfort, pray...  
**Luke 18:16**... "let the little children come to Me..."  
**John 13:35**... "your love will prove to the world you are My disciples..."  
**Eph 1:22**... "all under authority of Christ... for benefit of the church..."  
**Col 2:2**... "want hearts encouraged and joined together in love..."
- g. **Vision - Find Jesus**  
find family, find Jesus, find grace... Jesus is center of everything at AL... every ministry, song, sermon... every everything... what's the result...  
**1Cor 2:2**... "determined to know nothing among you except Jesus crucified..."  
**Phil 3:8**... "everything else is worthless compared to knowing Him..."  
**Col 1:10**... "bear fruit in every good work... thru knowledge of Him..."  
**Col 3**... "Christ is your life... He is all... and He is in all..."  
**Heb 12:1-3**... "faith depends on Jesus from start to finish..."  
**2Pet 1:1-3**... "everything given for life... found in knowledge of Him..."
- h. **Vision - Find Grace**  
grace is not a doctrine... not a nice sermon series... it is the person of Jesus... supposed to live by grace... not mixture of law and grace... dead to law...  
**John 1**... "He was full of grace and truth... receive grace thru Jesus..."  
**Acts 14:26**... "entrusted to the grace of God... to do the work..."  
**Acts 20:32**... "commit you to grace... to build you up... give inheritance..."  
**Rom 1:5**... "receive grace... to bring about obedience of faith..."  
**Rom 3:20-26**... "justified freely by His grace..."  
**Col 2:6**... "as you have received Christ (grace)... continue to walk in Him..."  
**1Cor 15:10**... "by grace I am what I am... worked more... by grace..."  
**Titus 2:11-12**... "grace instructs you... to avoid sin... live godly lives..."  
**Rom 7:1-6**... "dead to the law thru Christ... died to what held us..."  
**Rom 11:6**... "if by grace, it is not by works... or grace ceases to be grace..."  
**Gal 2:11-21**... "died to law... do not set aside the grace of God..."  
**1Tim 1:8-11**... "the law is not meant for the righteous..."
- i. **Mission**  
vision is simple... Find Family, Jesus, Grace... help you fulfill plans, hopes, dreams... can't be done alone... accomplish that thru our Mission...  
*We build relationships that rally around each other... fostering a safe, genuine, and loving environment... thru teaching and applying the Gospel of Grace.*  
**Acts 2:42-47**... "teaching, fellowship, meals, prayer, sharing, worship..."  
**Rom 12**... "many members... one in Christ... belong to one another..."  
**1Cor 12:7**... "spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other..."  
**Eph 4:11-16**... "prophets, pastors, teachers... to equip God's people to do His work, build up the church, speak truth... whole body fits together in love..."
- j. there is power in family... more power than on our own... scared world needs a fearless church... need you to help us take good news to them... pray...  
**Acts 4:31**... "they prayed... place filled with HS... spoke Word boldly..."  
**1Cor 5:4**... "when you are assembled... power of Lord Jesus is present..."  
**2Tim 2:2**... "commit these things to faithful men who will teach others..."

## A Perfect Church??

Acts 6:1... *there arose a complaint against the Hebrews...*

Many think that the early converts of Acts attended a perfect church. Some congregations are returning to the means and structure of these services... trying to find a church without problems. I'm sorry to shatter your dreams... but even the early church that began after Pentecost had problems. **Acts 6:1** reveals that there was murmuring and complaining as the church grew. In addition, the previous chapter told of members lying to the Holy Spirit and to church leadership!!

**There is no perfect church.** All churches have problems. The reason is that all churches are run by people who are trying to hear from the Holy Spirit. Even if you could find a perfect church... why would they want you?

A lady informed me after service one Sunday that she was looking for a perfect church. I told her I'd shoot her and she would find it. The perfect church is in heaven. If you're looking for the perfect pastor... you'll meet Him when the trumpet sounds. His name is Jesus. In the meantime... we, like the saints in Acts, are asked to attend imperfect churches with imperfect pastors, imperfect music directors, and imperfect youth leaders.

You are to be **committed to a church** and not *float* around to many churches in your area. Many who float from one church to another think they are mature and *given* to more than one local church. **Eph 4:14** tells us *babies are tossed to and fro... carried about by every wind of doctrine*. It takes a mature believer to settle down in a church... call it home... and **become committed**.

Why would God call you to an imperfect church? So He can take your gifts and talents and offer them to that church. Walking in love together... we'll come a little more into spiritual maturity... striving to become the perfect church.

**Bob Yandian**

## Sermon Study

*Our Family* - Rom 1:12 - September 20, 2020

1. Read **John 10:10**. Is that what you are **experiencing** in your life? Where is that **abundance** found? Read **Psa 36:8**.
2. Read **Rom 1:12** and **Heb 10:24-25**. How much does it mean to you that the church you attend **encourages** you?
3. What is **God's vision** for your life? Read **Neh 2:20... Jer 29:11... Acts 13:17... 3John 2**. Why is it important to **believe** that?
4. What is most important to you about AL's vision... finding **family**, finding **Jesus**, or finding **grace**? Why? Read **Psa 68:6... Phil 3:8... Acts 20:32**. Is it possible to choose just one?
5. Read AL's **mission** statement. What happens when you begin to be a part of that? Read **Acts 2:42-47... Rom 12... 1Cor 12:7... Eph 4:11-16**. What is **holding you back**?
6. What happens when the **church meets** together? Read **Acts 4:31... 1Cor 5:4... 2Tim 2:2**. Contact a pastor this week and **get involved**.

A Christian's new DNA, which he's received from the Word and the Holy Spirit, knows that it now belongs to something larger. And he's not content to wait for that heavenly end-time assembly. His new being longs to be gathered to other believers now, on earth. Like his new appetite to put on Christ's righteousness, there is also a new appetite to put on Christ's unity with God's people in a real assembly on earth.

Jonathan Leeman