



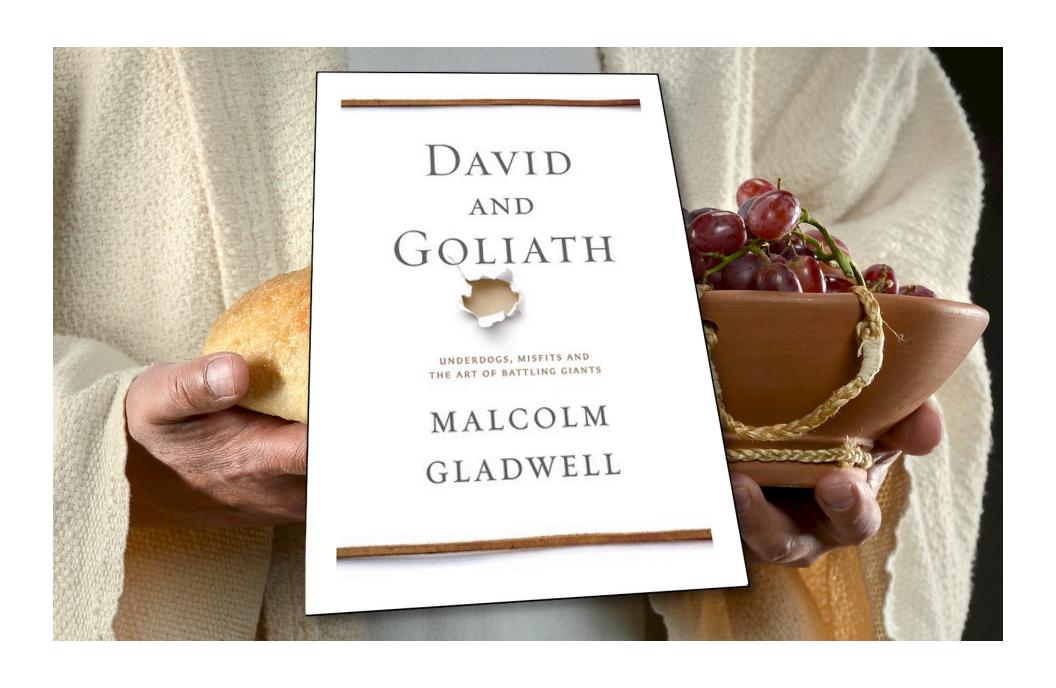
[Simeon's song] ...

"For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel."

Isaiah 49:6

he says:

"It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth."



Flannery O'Conner

"Jesus was the only One that ever raised the dead," The Misfit continued, "and He shouldn't have done it. He shown everything off balance. If He did what He said, then it's nothing for you to do but throw away everything and follow Him, and if He didn't,

Flannery O'Conner

"then it's nothing for you to do but enjoy the few minutes you got left the best way you can by killing somebody or burning down his house or doing some other meanness to him."

— from "A Good Man is Hard to Find."



- * Receiving Christ's love
 - & I was unable to save myself.
 - * Jesus rescued me.
- Showing Christ's love to others.



He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.
And what does the LORD require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy
and to walk humbly with your God.

Matthew 22:37-40

Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

Matthew 28:18-19

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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,



"and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."



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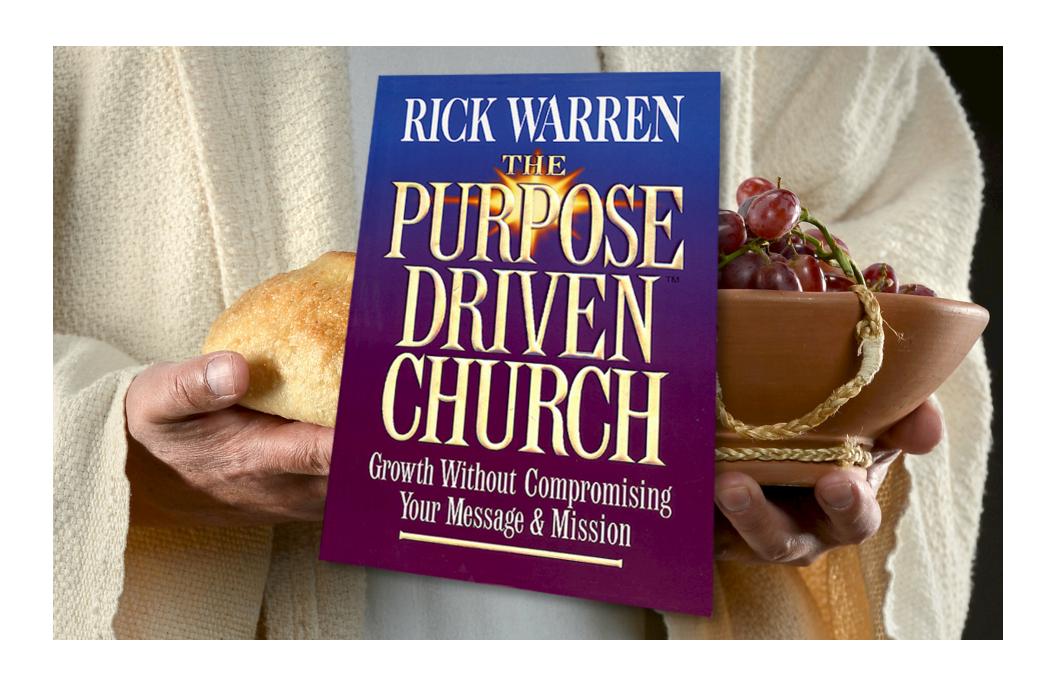
Matthew 16:17-18

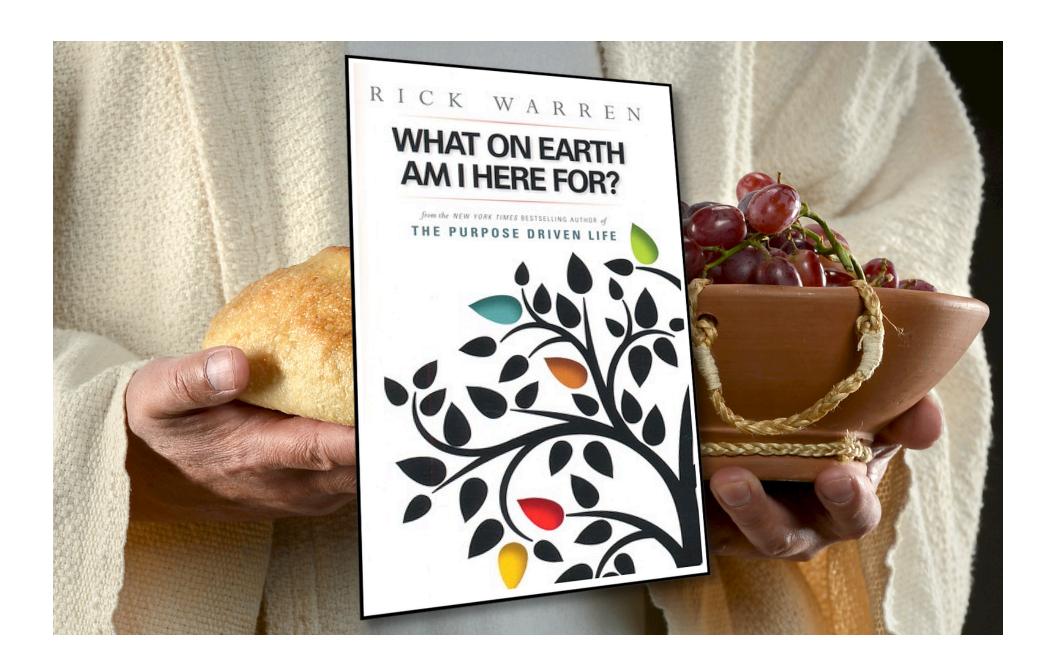
Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it."





- * Tend to my responsibilities, and let others handle theirs.
- My preferences / comfort do not matter.
- Serve the Lord with gladness.









- Connected as members
- * Safe for children and visitors
- Creative worship music
- High regard for Scripture
- People > programs
- Thriving small groups



Old Testament book series:

- * Genesis
- * Exodus
- OT heroes = Judges
- David bio = 1stand 2nd Samuel
- Psalms We Sing

- * Proverbs
- * Nehemiah
- * Esther
- * Isaiah
- * Jonah
- * Obadiah

New Testament book series:

- Matthew
- * Mark
- John
- * Acts
- Romans
- Galatians

- Ephesians
- * Philippians
- * Colossians
- * 1st and 2nd Peter
- * James
- * Jude



- & Richard Foster, Celebration of Discipline
- * Richard Foster, Streams of Living Water
- Dan Brown, The DaVinci Code
- Dan Allender, Bold Love

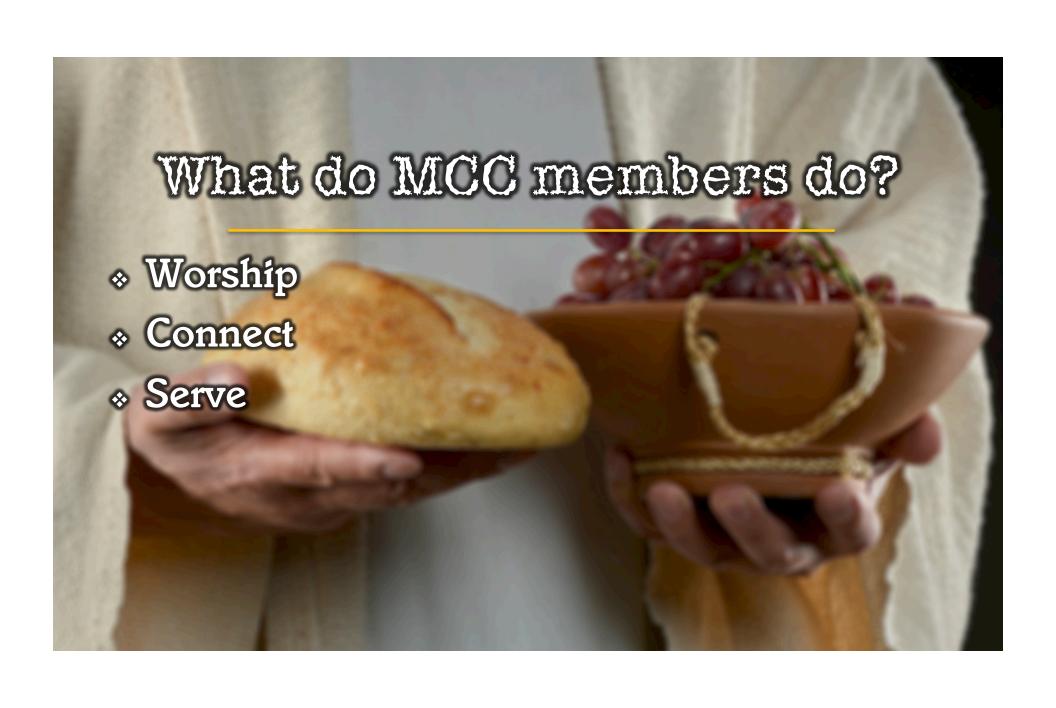


Thom Rainer

- * Transformational Church
- Simple Church
- * Autopsy of a Dying Church
- * Breakout Churches
- * I am a Church Member
- * I Will: 9 Habits of the Outwardly Focused Christian



- Devoted to the apostles' teaching
- Devoted to fellowship
- Devoted to "the breaking of bread"
- Devoted to prayer





- * I believe the Gospel.
- I will support the Great Commission by contributing my time, talent and treasure through my church.



- * I will make our worship services a priority.
- * I will connect with a small group.
- I will serve my community in and out of church.



- & Church as a "hobby" doesn't really make sense.
- A church's purpose is not to accommodate the preferences of its members.
- What is your plan?

My convictions / resolutions:

- * I will pray for people who need to meet the Lord.
- I will meet and serve my neighbors.
- I will practice hospitality.
- I will be ready for opportunities to invite people to church.



Are you being called?

- * To receive Christ
- To become a member of Melbourne
 Community Church
- To pray / to receive prayer
- To affirm or reaffirm a commitment
- To receive the LORD's Supper