

Date September 12, 2010
 Series The Meeting
 Title Attitude and Expectations
 Text Psalm 122:1, Mark 2:1-12
 Speaker Pastor Cassie Tundag

What attitude did you wake up with this morning? I truly hope it was not the same as the one I just portrayed! If so, I will not mind if you just get up and walk out the door right now.

These past few Sundays, Pastor Roger has been preaching on what happens in The Meeting. We've looked into God's word to see what He says about the meeting and what should take place in the meeting. Specifically last week we were reminded that God doesn't call The Meeting to make US feel good, but He calls The Meeting for His pleasure and His delight. Well, if it is for God's pleasure, and not our comfort, then what should our attitude be when we wake on a Sunday morning? Even though it isn't about us, it is not fair to God to start the day off with a bad attitude.

Think about this for a moment, if God calls The Meeting and it is for His pleasure, initially you may wonder why you should even be here. Wrong attitude. What does God's Word tell us about His nature?

Romans 8:28 – For those who love God, good things are being worked out

Matthew 7 – God will give good gifts to His children

If that is His nature then our attitude when we enter this room on a Sunday should be a positive one.

Attitude....how many of us heard repeatedly in our young lives:

“You better change your attitude”

“Don't give me no attitude”

“Attitude changes everything”

“Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference”

at·ti·tude

manner, disposition, feeling, position, etc., with regard to a person or thing; tendency or orientation, especially of the mind

Psalm 122:1 says

I was glad when they said to me,

“Let us go to the house of the LORD.

It doesn't say:

I feel obligated to go to church today, so I guess I will get up and get it over with

Or

My parents want me at church today, or my spouse expects me to be there today, so I guess I'll go to church

No it says, I WAS GLAD when they said to me, Let's go have some CHURCH!

Let's fast forward from the Psalms a few hundred years, Jesus has come on the scene, people have started recognizing that He just might be the Messiah, the one they have waited for and have heard that He has been healing people and teaching various places.

Open up your Bibles to Mark 2

Mark 2:1-12

¹A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. ²So many gathered that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them. ³Some men came, bringing to him a paralytic, carried by four of them. ⁴Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus and, after digging through it, lowered the mat the paralyzed man was lying on. ⁵When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

⁶Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves, ⁷"Why does this fellow talk like that? He's blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

⁸Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, "Why are you thinking these things? ⁹Which is easier: to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, take your mat and walk'? ¹⁰But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins . . ." He said to the paralytic, ¹¹"I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home." ¹²He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

I want to look at a few things in this passage. The obvious is the forgiveness of sins and the healing. This paralytic came to The Meeting EXPECTING something. He didn't just have someone carry him to The Meeting just to go, but he came because he needed something and he knew that there was only one place it could be found. The Meeting where Jesus was.

Let's look at something else though. Look back at verses 3-5 – Five men came, the paralytic and I think it would be safe to say that the other four were friends. I mean, who else is going to carry you up on a roof and DIG through it for you? Those are some good friends! Jesus looks at **ALL** of them, it says **THEIR** faith and He gives them what their faith was asking for....healing. I believe that is key to some of the answers we need to our prayers. There was unity amongst this paralytic and his friends, **THEY ALL** came to seek Jesus for a need, **THEY ALL** made an effort, **THEY ALL** came EXPECTING.

There is incredible power when we all come together expecting God to do something among us in The Meeting. This can vary from our church body as a whole to groups of people. Perhaps your Bible study or small group has been praying with you for something, maybe it will be in this meeting that God will answer. Perhaps your family is seeking God for something, it may be when you come together in unity in this meeting that God will answer.

I don't know how or when God may answer or how or when He may show up, but I do know one thing, my God loves to show Himself in these meetings and meet you in a very real and intimate way.

So, what were your expectations when you made your way onto this campus?

ex·pec·ta·tion

the act or state of looking forward or anticipating;

something expected; a thing looked forward to

Now, I don't want you to think this is just a selfish, just for me type of thing...on the contrary, there may be more times of you **GIVING** something to the Lord or the church body then **RECEIVING** something.

1 Corinthians 14:26 - When you come together, everyone has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. All of these must be done for the strengthening of the church.

You may be on the giving or the receiving end of the Holy Spirit's working. That is what makes this meeting so unique, it is not up to us, it is up to a holy, sovereign God what happens, we just need to be open to what He may do!

One of my favorite stories in the New Testament is in Acts 3, actually one of my favorites because I learned it in song form as a youngster.

Acts 3:1-10

One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of prayer—at three in the afternoon. ²Now a man crippled from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful, where he was put every day to beg from those going into the temple courts. ³When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for money. ⁴Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, "Look at us!" ⁵So the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them.

⁶Then Peter said, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." ⁷Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man's feet and ankles became strong. ⁸He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God. ⁹When all the people saw him walking and praising God, ¹⁰they recognized him as the same man who used to sit begging at the temple gate called Beautiful, and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

Peter and John hadn't even made it **TO** the temple yet, they are still on their way, and they are stopped for money. Where did you stop before you came this morning? Myself, I stopped at Starbucks, and every Sunday morning when I stop by Starbucks, I walk in with the mindset excited to go to church and there is a natural joy that flows from me in that mindset. The ladies sometimes ask me or joke with me that it is too early for a Sunday morning, but nope, I tell them I am excited for that day. What if one of these Sundays God asks me to do something like pray with one of them, or gives me insight into what one is dealing with. I don't know what God will do, but I know that just like Peter and John I am making my way to church with an expectation that I am going to meet with God and that could mean anything.

So, I'll ask you again, what did you expect when you made your way to The Meeting today?

THE MEETING



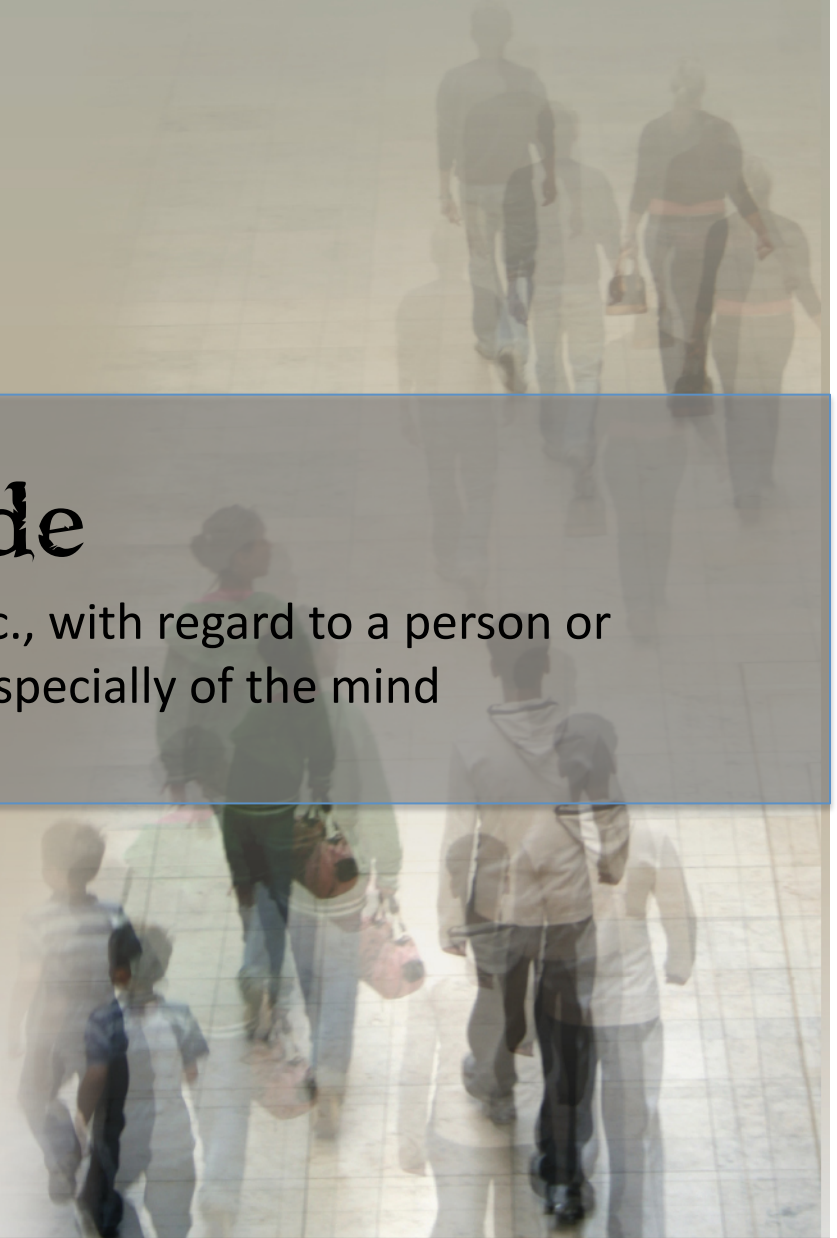
Did you plan your **WHOLE** life around it?

THE MEETING

plan your life around it

at·ti·tude

manner, disposition, feeling, position, etc., with regard to a person or thing; tendency or orientation, especially of the mind

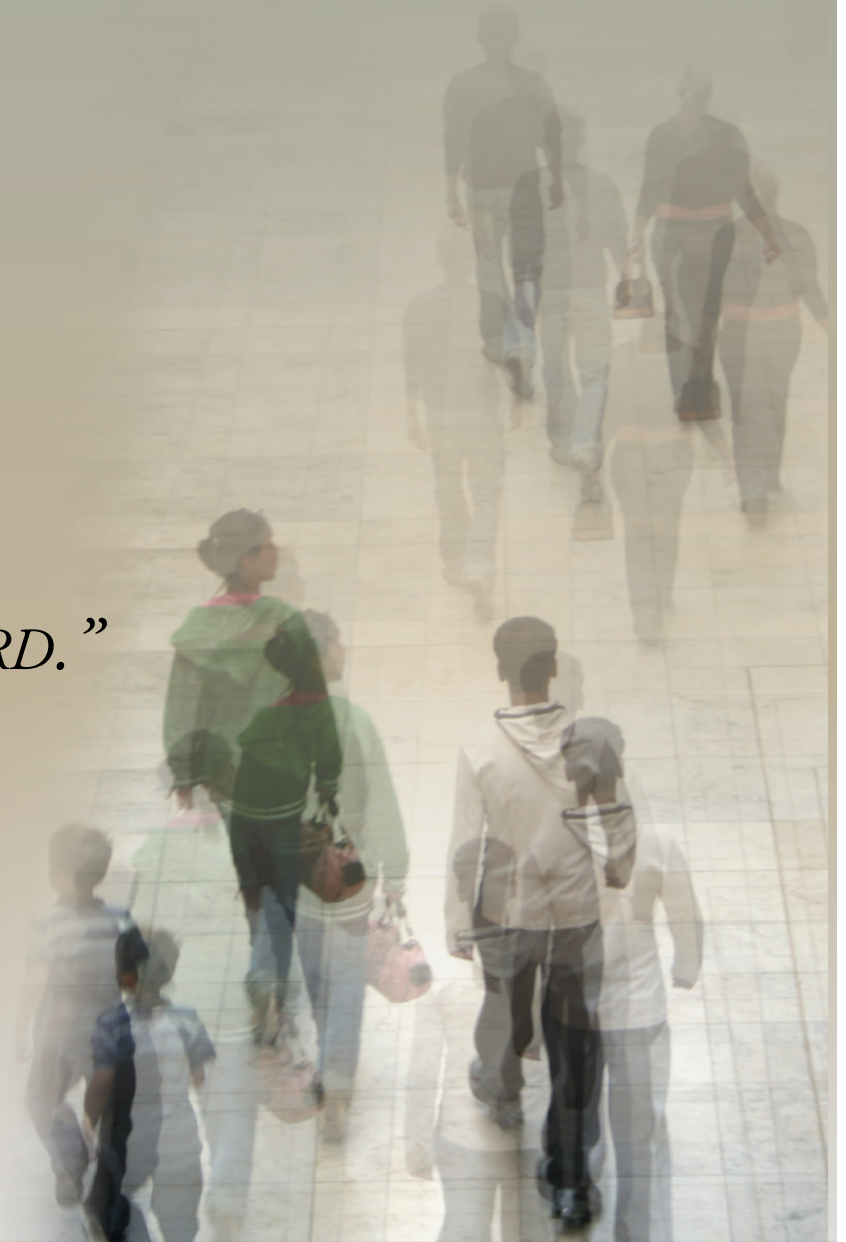


THE MEETING

plan your life around it

*I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the LORD.”*

Psalm 122:1 NLT



THE MEETING

plan your life around it

ex·pec·ta·tion

the act or state of looking forward or anticipating;
something expected; a thing looked forward to





The possibilities are endless...

Mark 2:1-12

Acts 3

Acts 10

THE
MEETING

plan your life around it

What are you expecting
God to do in
THE MEETING?

THE
MEETING

plan your life around it