Church on the EDGE!

August 8, 2021 Message Notes ACTS 1:8

Evangelism. Discipleship. Generosity. Empowerment. EDGE. What does a church on the EDGE look like? It looks like Jesus followers fully connected to each other and their church. In fact, living on the EDGE cannot happen apart from your church. You need the church just as much as the church needs you!

SWEET!



NOTES

Christ's Spirit provides us with the courage to overcome our fear and follow him all the way to the EDGE.

Life on the EDGE leads us to adventure. Life on the EDGE leads us to freedom.

We experience true freedom when God's power and our life come together.

"So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free." *JOHN 8:36*

"The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life." JOHN 10:10

Jesus meets us precisely in the hard places and offers us the fresh, living waters of freedom producing super blooms of spiritual fruit.

E - D - G - E

- Evangelism
- Discipleship
- Generosity
- Empowerment

"It is more blessed to give than to receive." *ACTS 20:35*

"Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father." JOHN 14:12

Jesus freely went to the cross as a sacrifice for our sin to make us right with the Father.

Fear robs you of your God-given freedom and, instead, imprisons you in camps called pride and shame.

Fear originates from the one whom Jesus calls the "father of lies." *JOHN 8:44*

The next time you feel afraid, ask yourself these questions:



- What am I not releasing to God?
- What do I want to control?
- Why am I afraid to lose it?

This may require you to confront some hard, sour places in your life.

"If you cling to your life, you will lose it; but if you give up your life for me, you will find it." *MATTHEW 10:39*

Release to receive.

The church can't live on the EDGE and in fear at the same time. It's impossible.

"God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline." *1 TIMOTHY 1:7*

"Such love has no fear, because perfect love casts out all fear." 1 JOHN 4:18

When uncertainty presents itself, fear rises, but that's not Jesus' response.

"...love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." *GALATIANS 5:22-23*

Release your fear to receive Christ's freedom!

Fear tells me that setting aside my pride and dealing with my shame seems impossible. Yet, releasing it...

- brings together what sin has divided
- buys back what sin has stolen
- restores what sin has broken
- heals what sin has wounded
- saves what sin has killed

"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery." *GALATIANS 5:1*

We are to overcome our fear and follow Jesus to the EDGE... together... as one body, Christ's body.



For a Jesus follower, living on the EDGE cannot happen apart from your church. You need the church just as much as the church needs you!

We become transformed by God's Spirit as Christ's living hands and feet, walking where Jesus sends us, healing, ministering, teaching, and multiplying in his name, for his glory!

The church isn't a building. It is... you are...

- 1. Salt of the Earth Matthew 5:13 2. A Love Letter from Christ - 2 Corinthians 3:2-3 3. A Fishing Net - Mark 1:17 4. A Life Boat - Matthew 8:23 5. An Ark - Matthew 24:36-42 6. A Loaf of Living Bread - 1 Corinthians 10:16-17 7. Light of the World - Matthew 5:14 8. Branches of the True Vine - John 15 9. God's planting - 1 Corinthians 3:9 10. The Bride of Christ - 2 Corinthians 11 11. A Wedding Feast - Revelation 19:9 12. Choice Clothing - Galatians 3 13. Citizens of Heaven - Philippians 3:20 14. Members of the Household of God - Ephesians 2:19 15. God's Household - 1 Peter 4:17 16. Ambassadors of the King - 2 Corinthians 5:20 17. A Holy City - 1 Peter 2:9 18. The People of God - 1 Peter 2:10 19. A New Creation - 2 Corinthians 5:17
- 20. Body of Christ 1 Corinthians 12:12

When the church is at its finest, it becomes the living, breathing embodiment of Love.

We help each other live on the EDGE by encouraging each other "to lead a life worthy of the calling you have received." *EPHESIANS 4:1*

We don't give up on each other.

We don't leave when times get tough or when our feelings get hurt.

We help each other.

We show up and show kindness for one another.

We don't judge each other.

We listen to each other.

We make space for each other.

We make space for others.



We disagree without dishonoring. We forgive one another just as, in Christ, God forgave us. We share the Gospel together. We serve on mission together. We stay committed to our absolutes. We love one another as we love ourselves.

This is how we will show the world, beginning first in our own neighborhoods and workplaces, that Christ is alive because he is alive in us.

Our lives aren't governed by fear but by the Spirit of the living God, who leads us to the EDGE.

