

“Take Aways” from The Gathering

History

1. God is a Covenant God. Everything He does is out of Covenant... His Word, His promises, His commitment to His people. He does nothing outside of Covenant.
2. In Covenant, we hold relationship as a highest priority.
 - Life IS relationship
3. Asher teaches, Covenant is what protects intimate relationships.
4. Covenant relationship, is a target of the enemy.
5. Covenant relationship involves a heart-bond that transcends all opposing forces.
6. What it takes to be in Covenant, committed relationships are the very qualities God wants built into our lives as He works to make each of us more like Him.
7. We cannot fully become like Him without each other.
We ARE one body, with one Head, and one Spirit.
And He is calling us to live that out ...TOGETHER!

Basics

1. Definition: Any agreement between 2 or more people in which certain actions are performed. The terms of covenant are mandatory on both sides and on all participants. Pledge of total loyalty and commitment. It is irrevocable
2. Covenant is counter-cultural.
3. Covenant is the way God relates to His people.

4. One of the pillars of covenant is obedience.
5. God gave the law to give them boundaries.
6. You cannot separate the Gospel from the Covenant.
Martin Luther said:
 - a. The OT is to show us our sin
 - b. The NT is to show us our Savior.
7. In the NT God performs both sides of the Covenant.
8. Covenant is the foundation of our faith. Yet, few Christians are aware of it or know much about it.
 - a. Churches don't teach about the blood. Blood is a requirement.
 - b. Many churches are trying to be culturally relevant.
9. We regain Covenant by stepping into it by faith.
10. Pillars of Covenant are – Trust, transparency, integrity, obedience to God, sacrifice, and worship.

Question and Answer AM

1. Covenant didn't come about casually, but intentionally

Four Areas of Covenant Living – All 4 of us

HOME

1. Biblical Covenant marriage and then family, has turned into a "contract."
2. Contracts were the result of broken covenants.
3. Covenant before marriage helps hold it together and protects the intimacy.
4. Covenant can extend beyond marriage and family to include those who don't have homes and even don't know the Lord.

CHURCH

1. Church membership isn't necessarily covenant.
2. We can't be in covenant with everyone, and that includes church leaders.
3. We are called to love everyone, but not necessarily be in covenant with everyone, only as the Lord leads us.

BUSINESS

1. If possible, don't be unequally yoked.
2. We are not to have two different standards, one in the church and a different one in business. We are not to be hypocritical, but people of integrity. We live our faith in all places, consistently.
3. Everything we do reflects our character.

GOVERNMENT (NOT politics)

1. Our nation began in Covenant with God. We have stepped out of that, as a nation.
2. The answer is to return to God.

EQUIPPING

1. We all have soul wounds. They are road blocks and they keep you from being in covenant relationship.
2. Covenant has been lost, but we can reinstitute it into every aspect of our lives.