

## **PP: Why The Road?**

**Antiphonal Reading: Matthew 16:13-19 NKJV**

**Announce:**

- **C and D Group Training coming up next Saturday, here at Chapel Hills 2:30 C Group training, 3:45 D Group Training**

## **Why The Road? Why another church in Colorado Springs?**

Our story:

- My wife is from CA and I'm from GA so the only place we could meet is China. I was a gymnast at UGA and she was a sorority girl at UCLA, so the only place we could connect was smuggling Bibles into China. We had our first date in Hong Kong, fell in love in LA, got married in Tokyo, and birthed two of our seven children in Japan—one was a homebirth on the island of Okinawa
- We both became missionaries to Japan, God gave Liz a dream of snow capped mountains and a rodeo...AIA Gymnastics coach came to Okinawa...
- Spent 3 years in southern California going to seminary at Fuller Theological Seminary and moved here to plant Mountain Springs Church
- The church grew into the thousands and two years ago the Lord spoke to Liz and me 7x "the road less traveled"
  - In all kinds of various ways—even through Robert Redford, God spoke to us "the road less traveled"
  - So in the spring of 2014 Liz, me, and a group of people gathered for 40 nights to seek God

- After seeking the Lord, crying out to Him, we knew that we had heard from God to plant The Road

## **THE ROAD, GOD'S OPUS**

**PP: The Road, God's Opus**

**PP: 'ō pæs/noun: opus; plural noun: opuses; plural noun: opera**

- 1. musical composition or set of compositions by a particular composer**
- 2. any artistic work**

**any artistic work**

**Jesus: "I will build My church (my opus, my magnum opus), and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." (Matthew 16:18-19)**

- Jesus is building an opus, an artistic composition, named The Road
- The Road is a work of art—the creative touch of God in Colorado Springs
- A coming together of individual works of art, people created in the image of God, to form this magnificent opus, a church dedicated to God's Word and God's Spirit

**PP: The Road is built on Discipleship**

- **Jesus built the Church because we can't make it without each other:**
  - 1—Jesus in our lives, a one-on-one intimacy with Him. The greatest athletes will tell you the two most important things in being a top athlete: Coaching and Routine
  - Illustration: one pencil breaking

- 3—Jesus had 3 close friends: Peter, James, and John. 3-5 men or women make up a D Group
  - Illustration: three pencils being broken
  - 12—Jesus had 12 men he poured his life into. This is our C Groups
  - Illustration: trying to break 12 pencils
  - 120—Those men and women who waited on the Holy Spirit→ corporate worship
  - Illustration: 120 pencils—we must have the body of Christ
  - 3000—The first church of Jerusalem→ the whole body of Christ worldwide
- **At The Road we are targeting men:**
    - Built on discipleship of men especially—the most overlooked are of the church. Most churches are made up of 65% women
      - 5 out of 6 men in the U.S. call themselves Christians
      - 2 out of 6 go to church
      - 61% of the church is made up of women
      - 3 out of 4 married women attend church alone
    - The Road is built on discipling men. The statistics of men coming to now Christ and the impact it has on the family is amazing. When men are leading their family spiritually, 85% of the wives and children become Jesus disciples
    - Ex. We launched our men’s ministry “Worshipper&Warrior” with our first men’s retreat in

September, “Wholeheart Advance.” We had our follow-up with “The Arsenal” last week

## **PP: The Road is a Training Center for all Ages!**

- Building wholehearted Jesus disciples who can go out and change the world!
- Wholehearted! Look at Mark 12:28

***Then one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, perceiving[d] that He had answered them well, asked Him, “Which is the first commandment of all?”***

***29 Jesus answered him, “The first of all the commandments is: ‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. 30 And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.’[e] This is the first commandment.[f] 31 And the second, like it, is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”***

- This is what we mean by being wholehearted—loving God, yourself, and people with all of your being!
  - It is about breaking the power of shame—that desperate feeling of being disconnected and fearful
  - It is waking up in the morning and saying “I am beloved; I am worthy; I am beautiful; I have what it takes, because Jesus has what it takes. I am enough because Jesus is enough.”
  - It is learning to say, “I have been given a new heart, a good heart, a beautiful heart, a new way of living and loving”
  - It is growing to understand that we have a new mind, a beautiful wonderful mind. We have the mind of Christ

- It is going to bed at night saying, "Today I may have failed, I may have tried to love and it didn't work out, I felt rejected, but I'm brave, I'm courageous, I'm good. I am still beloved."
- It is going to bed at night saying, "I'm on a journey and I really blew it today—but tomorrow I'm going to show up again; I'm going to still dare greatly and with Christ I can do all things through Him who strengthens me"
- A wholehearted Jesus disciple doesn't quit even coming up short again and again, but we continue to show up, to love, and to be brave!

**Theodore Roosevelt gave a speech, my favorite speech, I have it framed in my office: Paris, April 23, 1910, excerpt from Citizenship in a Republic:**

**PP: "It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat." (Theodore Roosevelt, Paris, April 23, 1910, excerpt from Citizenship in a Republic)**

- We are here to equip the saints, equip even our youngest members to be wholehearted Jesus disciples
- The most open to the Gospel are our children—we must train them! We have a mandate to equip them

- Ex. Politicians and social radical understand this principle well—win the children through education today, you will win the culture and the country tomorrow!
- The church should understand this! (graph of how people get saved and their age)
- Everyone loves and serves our children at The Road—all of us are going to build into our children. If everyone in the Road serves and helps with our children, you will be with the kids once every two months.
- Some of your are especially called to this ministry to our children—you have this Jesus anointing for discipling our kids
  - We are pouring the Word & Spirit into our children!
  - We are being creative in what we have the kids learn, building Bible and the Spirit into them
  - Ex. Amanda Styre, wife of our Associate Pastor, Ryan

**PP: PB&J is our Bread and Butter!**

- Ex. Hold up the bookmark...
- Prayer, Bible, and Journal (hold up my own)
- Ex. Video of Isaac
- Our C Groups and D Groups are built on discipleship through PB&J
  - C Groups: multi gender; family time; 10-20 people
  - D Groups: gender specific; 2-5 persons; more personal and intimate
  - C and D Group training next week here at CHC at 2:30 and 3:45

## **Ephesians 4:11**

***And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, 13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; 14 that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,***

- We are a Word and Spirit church: All Word no Spirit→ Dry up; All Spirit no Word→ Blow up...Word and Spirit→ Grow up
- We teach the Bible expositionally—book by book, chapter by chapter, verse by verse
- Moving into Joel and Revelation. Get ready! Next week we begin Joel, “the last days church”
- We believe in the power of the Holy Spirit
- We believe that Jesus heals today! That God still does signs and wonders. We believe we can be used by God to do ALL the works of the kingdom of God
- ***John 14:12 “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. 13 And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If you ask[c] anything in My name, I will do it.***

***Verse 15 but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ— 16 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part***

***does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.***

### **PP: Tune of God's Opus, The Road...harmony**

**Agreement, concord.** the combination of simultaneously sounded musical notes to produce chords and chord progressions having a pleasing effect.

A harmony is the combination of different sounds into a unified agreement that produce a beautiful sound, a beautiful symphony

The Bible says of the early church, "they were of one heart" (Acts 4:32)

- Unity characterized the early church
- Signs and wonders were the result
- Lives were changed because of their unity
- At The Road we are passionate about a unified purpose and vision
- We have a Covenant of Harmony that we would ask you to look over and sign if you are becoming a member of The Road

**We are now taking Communion together, the ultimate sacrament of unity, wholeheartedness, and love...**