

JOE #5 – HEBREWS 3:1-6 “CHURCH IS FAMILY”

Adopted not just attending.

British sociologist named **David Canter** studied family behavior in everyday spaces dining rooms. One of the things he noticed was surprising consistency. In family homes, people almost always sat in the **same place** at the dinner table, w/o ever talking about it.” He ask a families to intentionally switch seats during a meal. Nothing dramatic happened. No yelling. arguments. But everyone reported feeling *unsettled*. Conversations didn’t flow same. distracted. Someone finally said, “This just feels wrong.” **SPECIAL TIME GLUE – KN1 TABLE (CHANGE): TV Trays and Frozen Dinners (Picture). Something missing. Conversation. Engagement. WHY – 3 things happen. FOUNDATION, FORMATION, FLOURISH – 3 KEYS BLDG STRONG FAM. SD**

KN2 Family is a God-created, covenantal community. Founded in committed love, formed through shared life and discipleship, and flourishing as a reflection of God’s relational life and mission. **TRUE FOR NUCLEAR FAMILY AND GOD’S FAMILY. R We Family? SD**

KN3MP: God is forming a family with Jesus as its head, where belonging comes through faith, not convenience, and where we endure together when following Him costs us. HE KNOWS THEY ARE DRIFTING. FAMILY PULL THEM BACK SD

- Many people today, ‘church as family’ doesn’t land as good news. It lands as pressure. confusion. even suspicion. **3 CHALLENGES. Frag. Church/shallow**

FAMILY WOUNDS IMPACT VIEW: Nuclear Divorce, absence, instability. emotional neglect or abuse Hypocrisy at home paired w/religion at church. PROJECT..

Hebrews is not asking you to pretend your past was healthy. It’s inviting you into a *different* household, with a better Father and a faithful Son.

CONSUMER XIANITY: Degraded from **belonging** → **browsing**, from **covenant** → **convenience**, from **formation** → **preference**.

When church just becomes something I attend instead of a family I belong to, it stops forming me and starts serving me. **(preferences, felt needs)**

BRAND OVER BODY: Platforms without God’s presence, brands without shared life, hype without holiness

Jesus didn’t die to build a brand. He died to create a family.

AWAKEN IS RECLAIMING CHURCH AS FAMILY

WHEN HEBREWS SAYS HOUSE (oikos): it is not talking about a building, it is talking about a people. Not an institution, but a household, or a family.

Church as family is not metaphorical. It is theological and functional. In Christ, we are bound together by His blood. We are blood.

- **Jesus** came. Died. Rose so u be adopted into God’s family. HE COULD CALL U **Mark 3:34-35 Here are my mother and my brothers! ³⁵ For whoever does the will of God, he is my brother and sister and mother.**

K4 Romans 8:14-16 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.

- CHURCH: not a building, not just gathering (we do) organization (it is) **SD**

K5 God-created, covenantal community. Founded in committed love, formed through shared life and discipleship, and flourishing as a reflection of God's relational life and mission. **SD**

- **LIVE: Adoption Over Attendance: K6** You didn't *join* the church; you were *adopted into a family*. Chosen, named, given an inheritance, not earned

U can c attendance optional. Family isn't' See: Gather as fam. That's my fam **TRUTH**

PARADIGM SHIFT: EC: Family-based C: Consumer-based / EC: Obligation and loyalty C: Choice and preference / EC: Shared life C: Scheduled attendance / EC: Identity forming C: Program Supporting. SLIDE

CHURCH IS NOT: not disposable (leaving when offended), preference-based (consuming without contributing), just about attendance (treating like subscription)

JESUS IS OUR NON-NEGOTIABLE CENTER

K7 The church is family because of Jesus, not instead of Jesus. **Church/brand WORSHIP**

CONSIDER JESUS Observe attentively, examine deeply (**sustained and deliberate**).

- **GET UR EYES THINK ABOUT THIS – MAD CHURCH. PEOPLE. CULTURE. SD**

- **JESUS IS OUR CONFESSION**

Apostle: He is the One sent with authority by the Father - **High priest:** He is the One Between God and man and man and God. HE IS THE ONE

- Confession public, shared declaration of allegiance and truth. Includes communal agreement and settled identification. **WHY WERE ARE HERE....**

K8 Romans 10:9 if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

- **Confession matters here because its public, embodied, shared. FAMILY**

SD

TAKE THE RISK: Family costs more than consumption. Asks for forgiveness, patience, presence, and staying when it would be easier to leave. OFFERS SO MUCH MOR **STEP INTO IT**

- **WE HOLD FAST TOGETHER AS FAMILY (ILLUSTRATE)**

CALL: Not to be more committed to church, but to hold fast to Jesus *with His people*