

## TIM CHADDICK COMMISSIONING

### Dom Intro:

### WHAT WILL CHANGE?

- Tim is joining the team our team
  - He is joining our team as a first among equals, where he will be the pastor for preaching and vision.
  - He will eventually lead our preaching team.
  - He will preach regularly, eventually a little more often than I have normally preached.
  - Together, with the other elders (Billy, Chad, myself), he will lead in big picture vision; help lead and equip the staff; and will lead and teach equipping classes, where we will address cultural things that we can't always address on Sunday mornings.
- Dom's role
  - Once the transition period is completed, the longterm plan is for me to stay on staff, part time, as long as there are funds to do so.
  - We are praying that there will be, and are planning accordingly.
  - My role will change a bit.
  - I will preach a bit less.
  - Though I will **contribute** to the preaching series' **vision**, and to **church wide vision**, I won't facilitate the vision for those things like I have in the past.
    - Focused on leading and facilitating the overall **worship life** of our church.
    - **Lead some prayer** and worship gatherings.
    - **Lead musical worship** on a somewhat regular basis.
    - **Contributing to shepherding our gatherings**
    - **Collaborate with Brian, our musical worship director**, in mentoring worship leaders and working with our worship songwriters.
    - Deeply involved in shaping the "**culture**".
    - **Preach some.**
    - **Be an elder**, leading together, as a team, with Tim, Billy, and Chad.

### WHAT WILL REMAIN THE SAME?

- Jesus is the Senior Pastor
- Our leadership model of plurality/team leadership/shared vision
- Our staff, including elders
- Team teaching approach
- Our mission
- Our DNA

### HOW WILL THE TRANSITION PERIOD PLAY OUT?

- Starting this week, we will begin a **very slow** transition of Tim moving in, and me moving over.
- **There will be 4 phases of the transition.**
- **But just so you know:**
  - Phase 1: Tim will be doing a lot of observing...
  - Phase 2 Tim and I will be doing a lot more things together. We'll be co-leading some stuff. He'll begin leading some staff stuff. He'll start preaching a little more. I'll start preaching a little less and beginning to shift over to my new role.
  - Phases 3 and 4, he will be leading even more in some key areas, and preaching more, and I will be continue to move over... until we are both operating in our long term roles, alongside the other elders and staff.
- **So yes. There is Kingdom movement happening in our leadership, but this an EXPANSION for the Kingdom of God.**
- **This is an addition, not subtraction!**
- **Tim is not replacing me. I am moving over, and we are ADDING Tim to our team.**
- Tim was like a missing piece that we didn't necessarily lacking the last several years, but if we didn't have that piece going forward, we would begin to notice that lack.

### **Commission to Tim and Lindsey:**

Tim and Lindsey. Two years ago, you unexpectedly began to sense a call back to California, specifically wondering if it God was calling you back to the Coastlands (but let's be honest... the only place you ever imagined LIVING in the coastlands, was beautiful Ventura.)

But what would you do? Could you pastor and preach here somewhere? You desired to stay in the Reality family, but all of the Reality churches in the Coastlands already had preaching and vision pastors. And who take your position in London? But God was orchestration it all. Because in that exact same season, our trusted friend Bijan was sensing a call to London. And I... was sensing a shift "over" in my position in Ventura. The problem **here**, was that there were so few humans, on the planet, that we actually trust to come "in", if I was to move "over".

**It, to me, seemed like an impossible thing to ask for.**

**But God... (Those are two of my favorite words in the Bible.) But God...** Unbeknownst to one another, Bijan, began sensing a call TO London, at the exact same time that you guys were sensing a call OUT of London TO Ventura, at the exact same time that I was in Ventura, sensing a shift to move OVER in my position. **It's a rare occurrence to see something so complex, be so perfectly and effortlessly orchestrated. Only the great conductor himself, could have arranged something like this. It is the sovereign work of God that you are standing here today.**

I think I speak for all of us, when I say that my heart is full of gratitude. First to God, for His provision. But also to you, for obeying the call.

God brought you here. And He did right now — in the middle of this crazy pandemic. In the middle so many unknowns. In the middle of whatever this next year is gonna be. He did, for such a time as this. **Tim, Lindsey, Lilly, Phoebe, Paige, you are a gift from God.** And as a church, we receive you, as such. And we choose to today to honor you and commission as ministers of the gospel of Jesus Christ, in **this** place, at **this** church, in **this** community. In **these** coastlands.

And so now, I charge you, in the presence of God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: Tim, Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, and encourage, with great patience and careful instruction. For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. But you be watchful in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist. Tim, Lindsey, we commission you, by the grace of God, and the power of His Spirit, to fulfill your ministry here in Coastlands, and subsequently in the nations, for the glory of God, and the good of all people. **(ref. 2 Timothy 2:4)**

### **Elders Pray for:**

Tim (personal)

Family

Ministry

### **Tim Homily:**

- I am aware, as I have communicated to the staff and Elders, that we are stepping into something that we have not helped to build but rather is the fruit of all your labor in the Lord over the years
- From the Elders who have led so well, and the staff who have worked so hard, I am honored and humbled to join together.
- And so, as we begin this new season together, I would like to state three simple yet essential commitments as a part of our team, and it is important that we do.
- First, because these commitments will shape what to expect from the leadership and staff of our church, what our priorities will be.
- But the second reason is that these three commitments are really the core of what it means to be a Christian!
  - And so, if you are not yet a Christian, you will get a glimpse into what it actually means.

- And for the Christian, I am also calling you all embrace these commitments as your own, together.
- The Book of Mark is the earliest biography of Jesus, and in verses 7-12 we are given a summary of his work thus far, and what does it show us? His unique authority, seen in his preaching, healing, forgiving, he is the son of God. He is the solution! He is the answer to the human problem, he is the defeater of death, savior from sin, the healer of hearts, he is the one hope we can count on
- But what are we to do with that? What is he calling to?
- Here, Jesus appoints his 12 Apostles, it says in verse 13 “he called those whom he desired...” And what did he desire for *them*? and for *us*? 3 points that shape our commitment and the first is this:

## 1. To Be with Jesus

- a. He chose them to be his representatives and messengers, But the two key words, that we absolutely must not miss, explains how this is all going to happen... two words which, if ignored, leads to a world of anxiety, unrest, misdirection... two words which if understood, will enrich, empower and direct our lives like nothing in the whole world can... and the two words are WITH JESUS
- b. Everything good and right that will come from your life will flow from this place of being WITH Jesus (by the Spirit!)
- c. Our chief *desire* should be nearness to God. Our chief *concern* should be for anything that would hinder us.
- d. Before we ever do anything **FOR** Jesus being a disciple is about being **WITH** Jesus!
- e. He is the source for life and ministry. Without connectivity to him, our ability to live and lead will crumble beneath the pressure we face in our world.
  - i. This means we are worshippers first, workers second
- f. The best commitment leaders can make to a church, is first a commitment to being with Jesus
  - i. When our relationship with God unraveled, everything else unravels. But when our relationship with God is healed, we begin to experience healing in relationship to everything else. All ministry flows from intimacy
- g. Practically, this means continuing our commitment to prayer and scripture, which have always shaped this church.
- h. As the Elders, we commit to being people of prayer, to remember that it all begins here. Cultivating and protecting.
  - i. As a church, we commit to being with Jesus (when we hold prayer meetings, we begin by thanking him)
- i. This also means a commitment to Scripture. We know Jesus through His word.
- j. Jesus himself said that the word of God is even more necessary than our daily bread! So, it must be for us!
- k. When the onlooking public saw the miraculous works and heard the powerful preaching of the Apostles it is said that:

**Acts 4:13 ...They also recognised them as men who had been with Jesus.**

- I. Now, how could they tell?? What happens when you follow Jesus? Well, the answer leads to this second commitment:

## 2. **To Become Like Jesus**

- a. When you hang out with someone long enough, you change... you become like them!
- b. The result of being *with* Jesus is becoming more and more *like* Jesus... our lives are re-organised around him... this means a change in our character and our patterns...
- c. He teaches us godly character by the Spirit –
  - i. The Spirit takes what is true and makes it real to our hearts. He steers us from attitudes that are wrong and harmful, sinful! And towards what is good, right, holy
  - ii. **Christlike character is one of the greatest needs...**
- d. He teaches us to become like him by healthy practices
  - i. Here we see, Jesus has priorities and patterns...
  - ii. The practices we submit ourselves to in worship are one of God's ways of reshaping us as people!
  - iii. The church is like spiritual gym! (Prayer, CGs)
- e. When life gets hard, usually the church stuff is the first to go... when they should be the first you take up!
- f. So, I am saying... let's do this together... I cannot promise you that our gatherings will always be exciting... we won't have lasers... our sermons might not be impressive...the people around you may not be what you initially had in mind for community
- g. But I promise you this: We will continue to lift up the name of Jesus. We will commit to these practices to which Jesus made a promise: prayer, the lord's supper... we will always open and hear the word of God... and we will be changed... As we learn from him, we become like him!
- h. And the stakes are high... because others need to know!

## 3. **(The third commitment is) To Live for Jesus**

- a. What about the world? He sends them out to Preach (v 14).
- b. Being a disciple of Jesus does not mean that he is only Lord and saviour of part of your life. He changes *the whole of* life! That we might share the good news to others!
- c. Christ's love is meant to be displayed in love for other people. His love sends you out into the lives of others with a mission! And we are committed to this mission! To equipping our church to reach out to others, to be mindful!
- d. But maybe you feel the weight of not doing this well... failure. "Well, I fail at this often!" ME TOO.
- e. Peter knew this feeling well. After following Jesus for three years, he famously denied that he knew Jesus. he failed
- f. And yet Peter goes on to be a key leader of this whole mission, even writing two books of the New testament!
- g. **How?** Because even though he gave up on Jesus, Jesus did not give up on him.

- h. His relationship was not built on how well he loved God, but how perfectly God loved him! This is the truth of the gospel!
- i. The cross means our forgiveness is already secured... we simply must receive it and rely upon it for all life + ministry.
- j. Knowing what he did for me is what makes me live for him!
- k. So, "Can others tell that we have been with Jesus?"
  - i. Some of you have not yet decided to follow Jesus
  - ii. He invites you today! He is Lord and Saviour, give him the lead! Stop trying to save yourself.
  - iii. Some of you are following... but at a distance...
  - iv. He doesn't push you away, he draws you near!
- l. Others... stay near! Don't let your love grow cold!
- m. What Jesus wants... is you... for you to be with him, the very source of joy, life and peace... the greatest gift he could give you is the gift of himself... this is the heart of Christianity, the gospel, it's all found in this invitation... to be with Jesus.
- n. Our commitment to him is based on his commitment to us