

12-16-23 Facilitator – The Dwelling Place of God, Exodus 25, 29, 40 Tim Rice

1. **Launchers: Where has been your favorite dwelling place over the decades of your life?**

2. **Worship God As Members of His Household**

Ephesians 2:18 through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. 19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God

Read Psalm 148 and praise Him for everywhere and everything.

3. **Sermon Reflection: The Dwelling Place of God, Exodus 25, 29, 40, Tim Rice**

I WILL LIVE HERE – the LORD commits His Presence

- What does it say that the LORD desires to dwell among His people?
- How do you think about the impact of your residence for yourself?
- And how does your residence affect your neighbors?
- When have you had company who was important?
- And more significant still, when did someone important invite you to their home?

ACKNOWLEDGING ALIENATION – Sorry, you can't go in there.

- Why does anything have to be veiled?
- Why can't we forget the stories of when we've been left out?
- How have you felt the sense that you're an outsider?

THE MARKERS OF GRACE – Our values show in our houses.

- How does the healing of alienation depend upon God's work rather than ours?
- *Once reconciled, we're welcome in His home and He commits to fill ours, Eph. 2. And if the LORD has built this house, the passcode He freely gives us is confession*

4. **Kingdom Centered Prayer: You Can Pray With Us...**

1. Worship the LORD, God Almighty, who fills the heavens and the earth. Praise Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, for His holy Presence and His mercy to make His Presence open to us in Christ.

2. How have you lived as if God's Presence is irrelevant? Confess your spiritual numbness to Jesus, asking Him to cleanse you of your sin (that separates you from Him) and to heal your hardness of heart.

3. Give thanks to Jesus for His work to cleanse us so that His Spirit *could* inhabit us. Thank Him for tearing open the curtain of separation so that we could enter in to be with God and that He can enter into us.

4. Who do you know that ignores the Presence of God while they passionately seek the presence of other people in their life? Pray for them, asking the Lord to help them realize their need for Jesus.

5. Ask the Holy Spirit to awaken you to the miracle of His indwelling Presence. Pray for His fruit of joy in your heart, *especially as you see the staggering privilege of having God's Presence sealed to you eternally in Christ.*

5. **Mission: Christians are people with Jesus.**

Read the following quote from Pastor Drew Bennett. Then reflect how that changes the focus of your mission for 2024.

Drew: "Don't focus on being like Jesus. Focus on being with Jesus and you will become like Jesus."

How does that change your workplace, home, hobbies, and social settings?