



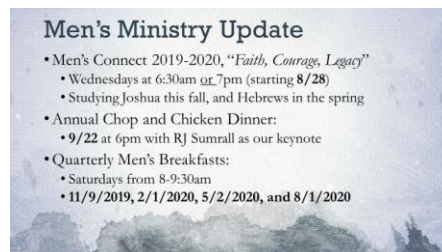
## “Storm Strong Families Need the Church, and the Church Needs Them”

Outline for Catalyst and Classical Services 30 June 2019<sup>1</sup>

By Aaron Rosheim

### I. Introduction:

- a. Good Morning, Christ Community Church. I am Aaron Rosheim, and I have the honor of leading the men’s ministry here. Today, we are bringing this ten-week sermon series to a close. Storm Strong Families has been both encouraging and challenging to me as a husband/father, and we as a staff team pray that it has been the same for you.



- b. I would like to take a brief moment to use my platform as a call to action for you men hearing my voice today. We are doing some exciting things in men’s ministry here, and we want you along for the ride. On August 28<sup>th</sup>, we will start our Men’s Connect ministry. These Wednesday gatherings will meet weekly as we study the book of Joshua for the fall semester. We are adding an evening session if you are not a morning man, so look to connect with men and the Bible for one hour on Wednesdays at either 6:30am or 7pm. We are also adding quarterly men’s breakfasts. Finally, our annual chop and chicken dinner is on September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm and will feature ISU Football Team Chaplain and former player, RJ Sumrall as our keynote speaker. See the dates on the slide and get involved with us. We need you to lead our Storm Strong families!
- c. Please have your Bibles ready and join me as we take a look at our place in the church, the church as God’s family, and how we might mobilize as the people of God. Text in any questions you might have. My bride will join me up here at the end to see if we can answer any of them.
- d. Let’s open in prayer.

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<sup>1</sup> All scripture quotations use the English Standard Version



## II. All of us can be in the family of God

- a. I hope you've been able to be here for, or go online and stay caught up with, this entire series. As I try to bring the series to some sort of conclusion, I will do a quick review of the highlights of this series because it really brings us to our main idea today.
- b. You might not feel very strong today, and you probably have a storm or two in your recent past or you brought it with you today. Each one of us has a different example to fit into the "storm" category. There are people in this service today battling cancer, families moving on from losing a dear loved one, loss of jobs, marriage struggles/failures, abuse, addiction, loneliness, depression, suicide, financial issues, and the list could go on and on. For my family and me, we deal with the separations caused by overseas deployments. The storms are all around us!



- c. Through this series, we placed in front of you a traditional, husband/wife, two-parent family as a model. We know that not all families fit this classic look. If you hear my voice today and you're thinking to yourself, "My family situation doesn't fit your perfect little stick figure family model," this message is for you. Likewise, if your family does fit the traditional model, this message is for you. The idea is that ALL OF US are in the family of God if we call ourselves believers in Jesus Christ. That is the message of the Gospel.

### Today's Main Idea

Through faith—by the grace and mercy of God—the Gospel provides all people the opportunity to be part of the FAMILY of God because of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit!

You are part of God's family...if you have faith.

- d. **MAIN IDEA: Through faith, the Gospel provides all people the opportunity to be part of the FAMILY of God because of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ by the grace and mercy of God, and through the power of the Holy Spirit!**
- e. Let's take a quick look back over this series.

### Storm Strong Families Theme

A storm-strong family has the humility and courage to LISTEN to God, BELIEVE His revelation, and USE His wisdom. In so doing, the Lord will build their house, to their joy and to His glory.

Psalm 127:1 and Matthew 7:24-28

## III. Storm Strong Families Review

- a. This series kicked off on April 28<sup>th</sup>. The theme of this entire series has been this:
  - i. **SERIES THEME: A storm-strong family has the humility and courage to LISTEN to God, BELIEVE His revelation, and USE His wisdom. In so doing, the Lord will build their house, to their joy and to His glory.**
  - ii. Theme verses: Psalm 127:1 and Matthew 7:24-28

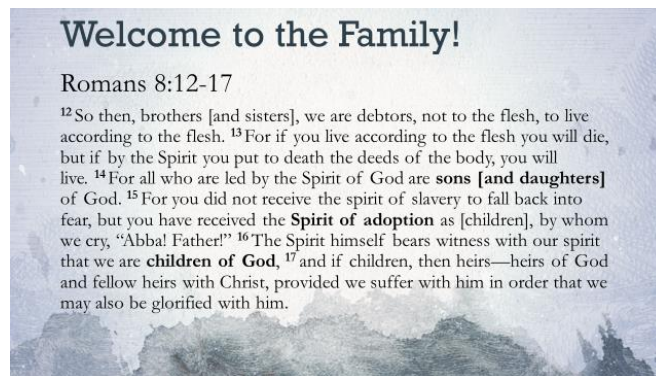
### Foundation Stones

- Storm Strong Families have Jesus at the center
- Storm Strong Families fear the Lord
- Storm Strong Families love well
- Storm Strong Families have a strategy
- Storm Strong Families find a rudder
- Storm Strong Families have eternal values
- Storm Strong Families need the church

- b. The series followed the schedule you see on the screen (slide). We used the idea of foundation stones. They are as follows:
  - i. Storm Strong Families have Jesus at the center
  - ii. Storm Strong Families fear the Lord
  - iii. Storm Strong Families love well
  - iv. Storm Strong Families have a strategy
  - v. Storm Strong Families find a rudder
  - vi. Storm Strong Families have eternal values
  - vii. Storm Strong Families need the church
- c. How does the series point toward the need of the church? Why is the church considered the family of God? Why does that matter? What should I do about it?

#### IV. How can I be part of the family of God?

- a. Throughout history, God has worked through people as the pinnacle of His creation because He desires a relationship with us in order to use us for His glory.
- b. It was always His plan to redeem us through a Messiah, a Christ—Jesus of Nazareth. And, it is through Jesus that we are all connected into the family of God. The church is the family gathering of God’s people for us to Gather, Connect, and Serve (the strategies of Christ Community Church).



#### c. Romans 8

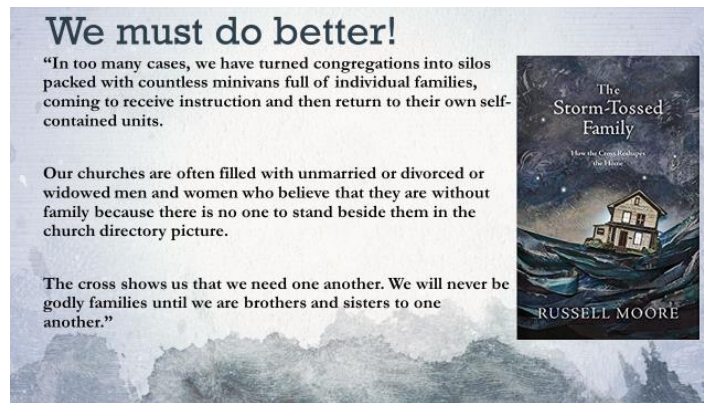
There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup> For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. <sup>3</sup> For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, <sup>4</sup> in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. <sup>5</sup> For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. <sup>6</sup> For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup> For the

mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. <sup>8</sup> Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup> You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup> But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup> If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

<sup>12</sup> So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. <sup>13</sup> For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup> For all who are led by the Spirit of God are **sons [and daughters]** of God. <sup>15</sup> For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the **Spirit of adoption** as sons [and daughters], by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" <sup>16</sup> The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are **children of God**, <sup>17</sup> and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

- d. Okay, that sounds nice, but why is this “family” you call church hard for me to connect with?



**We must do better!**

“In too many cases, we have turned congregations into silos packed with countless minivans full of individual families, coming to receive instruction and then return to their own self-contained units.

Our churches are often filled with unmarried or divorced or widowed men and women who believe that they are without family because there is no one to stand beside them in the church directory picture.

The cross shows us that we need one another. We will never be godly families until we are brothers and sisters to one another.”

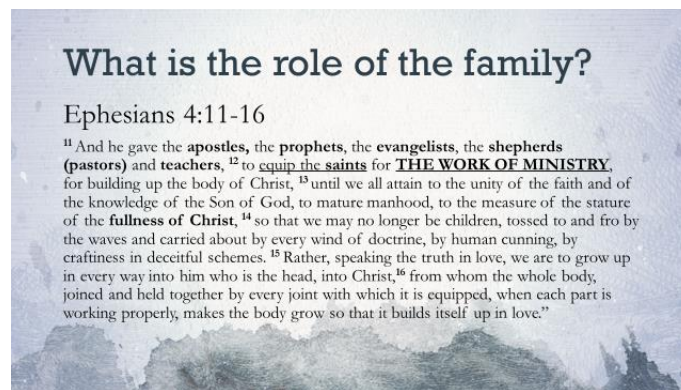
*The Storm-Tossed Family*  
How the Cross Reaches the Home  
RUSSELL MOORE

## V. We have to do better!

- a. In Russell Moore’s book, *The Storm Tossed Family*, he described a common issue in today’s churches.<sup>i</sup>
- b. “In too many cases, we have turned congregations into silos packed with countless minivans full of individual families, coming to receive instruction and then return to their own self-contained units. The end result, especially in a rootless, hyper-mobile American culture, is the reality of mothers who are lonely and fear they’re failing but who don’t want to say anything for fear of being judged or starting up the Mommy Wars, or fathers who are lonely

but who aren't supposed to signal that they don't know what to do about their son's pornography addiction or their daughter's anorexia. Our churches are often filled with unmarried or divorced or widowed men and women who believe that they are without family because there is no one to stand beside them in the church directory picture. And yet, the cross shows us that we need one another. We will never be godly families until we are brothers and sisters to one another."

- c. "Our churches too often mirror the loneliness of the outside world."
- d. In THIS church, we have a population of people who are sinners, hypocrites (GUILTY!), but I pray that we are also people who are striving to run after Jesus contagiously loving people along the way.
- e. Christ Community Church, we must be better than the average of the culture around us!



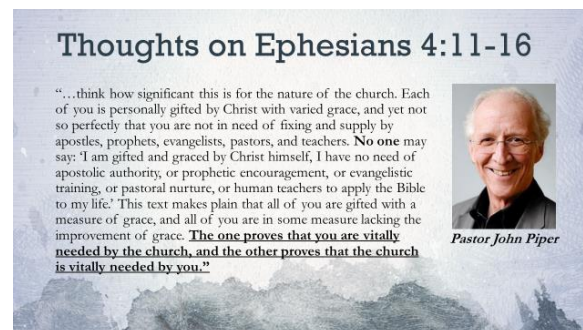
## VI. What is the role of the family of God?

- a. Ephesians 4:11-16

<sup>11</sup> And he gave the **apostles**, the **prophets**, the **evangelists**, the **shepherds (pastors)** and **teachers**, <sup>12</sup> to equip the saints for **THE WORK OF MINISTRY**, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup> until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the **fullness of Christ**, <sup>14</sup> so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. <sup>15</sup> Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, <sup>16</sup> from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when

each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.”

- i. 5 roles within church leadership: Apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, teacher
- ii. To equip the SAINTS (us) for the WORK OF MINISTRY to build up the body of Christ
  1. Those who receive Jesus, believe in Him and his life, death, and resurrection for the forgiveness of sins, and confess that with their words/actions are SAINTS in the kingdom of God (see also John 1:12 and Romans 10:9-10)
  2. The leaders within the body of believers (apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers) are there to build up, equip, and send out the saints for the work of ministry
    - a. Again, these roles are based on God’s calling
    - b. And again, implies the church is still lacking and not fully complete



3. John Piper quote: “...think how significant this is for the nature of the church. Each of you is personally gifted by Christ with varied grace, and yet not so perfectly that you are not in need of fixing and supply by apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers. No one may say: ‘I am gifted and graced by Christ himself, I have no need of apostolic authority, or prophetic encouragement, or evangelistic training, or pastoral nurture, or human teachers to apply the Bible to my life.’ This text makes plain that all of you are gifted with a measure of grace, and all of you are in some measure lacking the improvement of grace. The one

proves that you are vitally needed by the church, and the other proves that the church is vitally needed by you.”<sup>ii</sup>

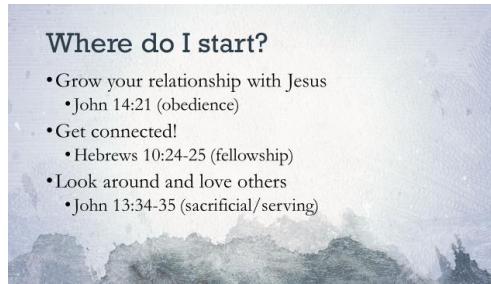
4. The aim of both is to grow mature in **CHRIST!**
5. Verses 13-16 give us the imagery of a growing physical body
6. The external aspect of this growth is an overflow to those outside the body for the Gospel and the glory of God.



## VII. Christ Community Church Overview

- a. In this family of God we call Christ Community Church, our mission is: Connecting people to life-defining relationships IN Christ.
- b. Our strategy is simple:
  - i. Gather
  - ii. Connect
  - iii. Serve
    1. Start Local and impact Global
    2. Acts 1:8 (pg. 909) "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."
    3. 1<sup>st</sup> place (Me/Family/Home)
    4. 2<sup>nd</sup> place (Church)
      - a. What group can you join to grow yourself and serve this body?
    5. 3<sup>rd</sup> place (Community)
      - a. Partner with our church body in serving Ames
    6. 4<sup>th</sup> place (world)
      - a. We have international students who come to our front porch





## VIII. Where do I start?

- a. We must embrace our identity as sons and daughters in the family of God and then strive to mature in Christ, so that His love may overflow into our homes/church/community/world.
- b. First and foremost, we must focus on establishing and growing a real relationship with Jesus (see John 14:21). This looks like obedience.
- c. Next, we must get connected (see Hebrews 10:24-25). Fellowship requires us to take a chance and be vulnerable. Stop and actually talk to each other after the service today. Seek to get together for follow-up.
  - i. To effectively grow we all need three relationships in our lives:
  - ii. A Spiritual Parent (leader)
  - iii. Spiritual Brothers/Sisters: see Proverbs 27:17 (pg. 548)
  - iv. Spiritual children
  - v. 2 Timothy 2:2 (pg. 995) “and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.”
  - vi. Intergenerational and spiritual generations implication
- d. Look around and love others (see John 13:34-35).
  - i. Be Intentional
    1. Prayer-Care-Share
    2. Minister = Service as access
    3. Befriend/Mentor/Lead
    4. VoD example
    5. Be a positive example to others

## IX. Conclusion

- a. **Through faith, the Gospel provides all people the opportunity to be part of the FAMILY of God because of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ by the grace and mercy of God, and through the power of the Holy Spirit!**
- b. Let's see if we can answer some of your questions from this series.

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<sup>i</sup> Moore, Russell D. *The Storm-Tossed Family*. Nashville: B&H Publishing, 2018.

<sup>ii</sup> Source: John Piper sermon, “Why the Saints minister to the Body,” given 10/18/1992.

[www.desiringgod.org/messages/why-the-saints-minister-to-the-body](http://www.desiringgod.org/messages/why-the-saints-minister-to-the-body)