

the  Venues  
**Go Deep**  
Church is a Party!  
Deuteronomy 14:22-28

*What is the most memorable party you've attended?*

*Have you ever fallen asleep in church? Have you ever thought church was boring?*

Read Deut. 14:22-28

*What was the reason God gave for giving a tenth of the Israelite's income? What were they supposed to do with the tenth? Notice what they did with it every 3rd year... what does that say about who God values?*

*How is this different from how churches call for members to give 10% of their income today?*

*What are people's perception in our culture of church and money?*

**God likes to party!**

The Israelites celebrated 7 festivals a year, rested and celebrated on the 7th day of the week, celebrated a Sabbath year every 7 years where debts were put on hold, and every 7th Sabbath year (7x7=49, Math is hard) was the Year of Jubilee. Debts erased. Prisoners and slaves set free. Clean slate. How would you feel if all of your credit card debt and mortgage disappeared forever? That's what God wants for His people!

Read Leviticus 25:8-10

Isaiah describes the year of Jubilee. Read Isaiah 2:4, 11:6, 25:6.

*What would the world look like today as described by Isaiah in 700BC?*

*Have you ever wished there was peace in the world?*

God's people were waiting for the day when a Messiah would come and usher in the Jubilee and start the party! They were waiting for the day when God would restore the world and bring peace and freedom.

Read Isaiah 61:1-2

Read Luke 4:17-21

*Notice any similarities? Jesus is claiming to be the guy to usher in the year of the Lord, the Jubilee, the party!*

*Notice what any part of Isaiah that Jesus left out? Why? What does that say about Jesus and His mission?*

**Let's get this Party started!**

Jesus says the Kingdom, the Jubilee, the Party is here, inside of us. (Luke 17:21) What does it look like for God's values to be inside of us?

Read John 15:9-13

Is it possible that every act of love, kindness, where we display the fruits of the Spirit, is helping God plan the party where he restores the world?

*Have you ever been to a party that was ruined by a party pooper? Sometimes we're the party pooper!*

Planning the party means stopping the party poopers. How do we respond to those who don't hold God's partying values of loving your enemy and taking care of the poor? (Matthew 5:44)

When we give money, time, resources to The Venues, we're planning for God's Party for the world. The Venues vision:

A WORLD WHERE EVERY LIFE IS DRIVEN BY LOVE - That's the party God is planning for the world! (1 John 4:8)

*What would your world, work, family, home, look like if every life was driven by love? How do we get there?*