



Parables

Summer 2017



The Summer 2017 Journal



Welcome to Epic Life Church. If you are new to this community, I hope you feel welcome. We are a church, and have been called to intentionally minister to this specific community here in North Seattle and along the Aurora corridor. I want to invite you to join us in this journey as God builds his Church in this broken world. He has called us to be The Light on a Hill so that all may see it, and since you have found yourself attending the Sunday gathering of Epic Life Church, I believe God is calling you to be a part of this ministry.

We are a church that intentionally serves our community: the community of Christ and the community as a whole. In serving our community, we get the awesome privilege of presenting the Gospel of Jesus Christ to many who would never enter a building on Sunday morning. Epic Life Church is all about "...going into the world and making disciples; and gathering together to learn and fellowship and care for each other." (Matthew 28, Acts 2)

Welcome to this movement. You are going to love being part of it! Please feel free to get in touch with me if you want to sit down to talk about our calling at a deeper level.

-Pastor Keith

Email or call; keith@epiclifechurch.org
(206)552-9586
or go to our website www.epiclifechurch.org

Table of Contents

page 1 & 2
the june journal & table of contents

page 3 & 4
announcements

page 5 & 6
the four environments of epic life

page 7 & 8
Love Aurora & the summer parable series

page 9 & 10
parable of the sower

page 11 & 12
the lost sheep

page 13 & 14
the unforgiving servant

page 15 & 16
the kingdom

page 17 & 18
'There Is Room' - Claudia Skolaut



Announcements



Volunteers Needed for Sunday Morning Child Care:

Infants (birth - 2 yrs)

Snuggle, sing and play with our youngest Epic Lifers! Our infants need you to rock them to sleep, change their diaper and keep them entertained while their Moms & Dads hear about Jesus.

Toddlers (2 - 5 yrs)

Our toddlers are a lot of fun & they'd love to play with you! Teach them a story and build a craft each week to help the Bible stories come alive.

Sunday School (5 - 9 yrs)

Help teach our school-aged children the fruits of the Spirit through lessons, games, stories & crafts. You will be able to walk with these children through intentional discipleship and what it looks like to follow Jesus.

Please contact Katy (prechool@epiclifechurch.org) or Hector (hector@epiclifechurch.org) to volunteer with one of these ministries.

Alpha Course, Monday's 6:30 - 8:30 PM

Missio Church is hosting an Alpha Course at The Axis on Monday's from 6:30 - 8:30 PM. Alpha is an evangelistic tool built to foster spiritual conversation around the foundations of Christianity. *To join the conversation or to volunteer please email Jared King: jared.king8@gmail.com*

Love Aurora Serve Day, July 30th

Get ready Church, we will be serving along Aurora on Sunday July 30th at 9:30 am to pick-up trash, prayer walk & be the hands & feet of Jesus. Mark your calendars!

Set-up/Tear-Down Team

Epic Life needs some helping hands with our set-up/tear-down team. If you're interested or to sign up email Alyssa: alysa@epiclifechurch.org

Epic Life Annual Camping Trip, Aug. 25 - 27

Join us for a weekend in the mountains with family, fun and the outdoors! We will be traveling to the North Cascades National Park and staying 2 nights at the Colonial Creek Campgrounds. **\$10/family, \$5/per person.** *To reserve your spot email Alyssa: alysa@epiclifechurch.org*



The Four Environments of Epic Life

**Our vision is to see North Seattle transformed
by finding an epic life in Jesus Christ.**

At Epic Life we believe that Christianity is about more than just going to church on Sunday morning. We believe having a relationship with Jesus Christ impacts all of our thoughts, actions, words and deeds.

The foundation of Epic Life is Jesus Christ. The structure of our church is based on four equal components: Incarnational Ministry, Purposed Ministry, Corporate Worship and House Church. Throughout the Journal, you'll see these Environments mentioned with opportunities to get involved. We welcome you to check it out!

A yellow rounded rectangle with the letters 'CW' in white, sans-serif font.

Corporate Worship

This is the weekly gathering of God's people who come together to worship through Biblical teaching, song and the arts.

A blue rounded rectangle with the letters 'HC' in white, sans-serif font.

House Church

Smaller, close-knit groups that meet weekly for the purpose of further developing relationship with God and one another.

An orange rounded rectangle with the letters 'IM' in white, sans-serif font.

Incarnation1 Ministry

This ministry models the love of Christ in practical ways through service, giving and teaching.

A green rounded rectangle with the letters 'PM' in white, sans-serif font.

Purposed Ministry

Ministry designed to teach toddlers, children, and youth about Jesus Christ in age-appropriate ways.

Love Aurora Sunday, July 30th



The Summer Parable Series



“Jesus used many similar stories and illustrations to teach the people as much as they could understand. In fact, in his public ministry he never taught without using parables; but afterward, when he was alone with his disciples, he explained everything to them.”

Gospel of Mark 4:33-34

Jesus taught about 46 parables throughout Matthew, Mark, Luke and one time in the Gospel of John. The word ‘parable’ literally means to set a thought parallel to another thought for better clarity and understanding. It was through parables or stories that he was able to communicate truth to so many throughout the ages.



july 2 - parable of the sower
(jared king)

Mark 4:1-20



july 9 - the lost sheep

Luke 15:3-7



july 16 - the unforgiving servant

Matthew 18:21-35



july 23 - the kingdom

Matthew 13:24-35

There Is Room (Luke 14:12-24)

I love this parable because in it something happens we do not expect. When reading the story that Jesus tells, I imagine a Gatsby-esque party. Only the top of the top, the rich and famous are invited to this extravagant banquet. It is the event of the year and everyone is talking about it.

On the day of the banquet, however, all of the originally invited guests decide that they had more important things to do. Perhaps they got together and decided as a group not to go, or perhaps each person individually decided they were too preoccupied to attend. It is possible that many felt that they just did not need to attend the great banquet, they were already the wealthy, the famous, the successful, the attractive, the fittest, the chosen of society.

Everyone, at some point in their lives, has given a reason for why they cannot come to the banquet. When we feel we have everything we need, there is often a lack of motivation to come to the great banquet to which we have been invited. We may feel that we are capable of creating a banquet on our own so we do not see the importance of coming to this particular banquet at this particular moment.

The first to be invited were unwilling to go. It was the least expected who ended up coming.

When the host of the banquet saw that none of those he had invited were coming, he told his servant to go out into “ the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and crippled and blind and lame.” The servant did as he was told and those he invited eagerly followed him back to the grand celebration. The guests sat down, but the host saw that many seats remained unfilled. He told the servant again, “Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled.”

I think a lot of people are turned off by the invitation of Christ because they do not believe they fit the “type” that is often associated with following Jesus. I love how Jesus, through this parable completely shatters these misconceptions of who is invited to be in relationship with the Father. Everyone no matter where they are, who they are, or what they are doing receives an invitation to come to Jesus.

Because of what Jesus did through his death and resurrection we are all invited to the great banquet that God has prepared for us. Yet, still many will choose not to show up.

The banquet is ready and the invitations have been sent. The question remains, who is willing to come? Everyone is invited, but not all choose to come. Nothing is required to show up. No background, no knowledge, no wealth, no condition, only a willingness to come to the table that has been prepared for us.

Let us be the servant in this story who goes out into the city, the streets, the dark places shouting, “There is room at his table and you are invited!”

Epic Life Church
epiclifechurch.org
The Axis: 10510 Stone Ave N
Seattle, WA 98133