



# UNCOMFORTABLE

**The awkward challenge  
of christian community**

Nothing matures us quite  
like faithfulness to Jesus  
amidst discomfort.

We are living in the  
loneliest world in history.

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Cigna® 61%

In the loneliest world in history...

Could it be the church can  
provide community, safety,  
and true connectedness?

# 4 Main Metaphors for the Church

- Building
- Body
- Family
- Marriage

# The church is a **building**...

- Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. - Eph. 2:19-22
- You may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God. - 1 Tim. 3:14-15
- You yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house. - 1 Pet. 2:5

CREATE  
— A —  
CHURCH



How easy is it for an American Christian to approach finding the right church the way we approach buying cereal at the supermarket? We're looking for all the right ingredients and rejecting churches because they don't have our style of worship, our style of preaching, or our types of people. **We're purchasing a product rather than committing to the body of Christ.**

- Soong-Chan Rah

Church is not about me.  
Church is about God.

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Church is about God.

- Fixed on Jesus
- Anchored in the Gospel
- Committed to the authority of Scripture.

# The church is a **body/family**...

- For as in one body we have many members, we are one body in Christ. - Rom. 12:4-5
- Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. - Eph. 5:23
- We should be called children of God! – 1 John 3:1
- You are fellow citizens and members of the household of God. – Eph. 2:19

Dan's BIG Idea:

People are WEIRD.

God's people are not dogs, Otherwise, they might go about one by one. They are sheep. And, therefore, **they should be in flocks.**

- Charles Spurgeon

“How do you (Dan) encourage kids to get out of their ‘group/cliqve’ to engage with kids who don’t have a group, might be new, etc? How can we (Parents) help at home?”

“How do you **(ADULT)** encourage kids **YOURSELF** to get out of their **YOUR** ‘group/clique’ to engage with kids **ADULTS** who don’t have a group, might be new, etc? How can ~~we help~~ **YOU** **PRACTICE** at home?”

You don't choose your family. **They are God's gift to you,** as you are to them.

- Desmond Tutu

People embrace Jesus but ditch the church, oblivious to the fact that in so doing, **they are creepily embracing a decapitated head.**

- Brett McCracken

- Your Name -

- Where You Live -

- 1 Thing About Yourself -

# The church is a marriage...

- Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb. – Rev. 21:9
- The marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready. – Rev. 19:7-8
- This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. – Eph. 5:31-32

Marriage is a covenant.

We shouldn't confuse  
discomfort with dysfunction.

We can't equate being hurt by the  
church with being frustrated by  
decisions we don't agree with.

We want you to like  
our church!

To the **FAC Staff**:

Will you commit to confidence in the gospel rather than condescension to the consumers you hope to reach? Will you commit to leading with, rather than apologizing for, the offense of the Cross?

Will you commit to raising the bar for your flock rather than lowering it, calling them to Jesus-like holiness rather than affirming their authenticity? Will you commit to joyfully building an uncomfortable Church?

# To the Church-going Christian:

Will you commit to joining and sticking with a church, not because it is a good fit for you, but because it is fitting for you to become more like Jesus? Will you commit to looking at church not in terms of what you can get but what you can give...

...considering how your presence with the body might encourage others and stir them to love and good works? Will you embrace the awkwardness and inconvenience and uncool costliness of the uncomfortable Church?