

Buffering

the art of transformation



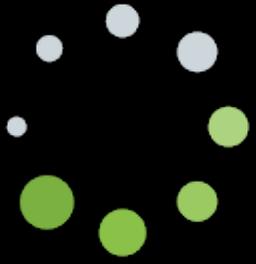
Church Detox

Recap

Pretend God was invisible

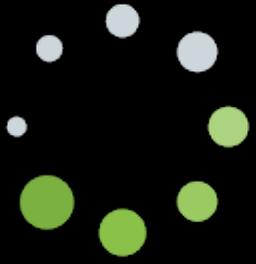
**The only way you would know that this
unseen being is real is by the behaviour
of those who know/love/follow Him**

Recap

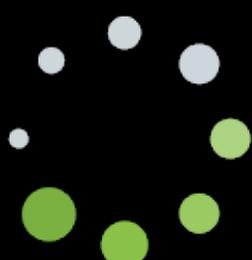


So put to death the sinful, earthly **things**
(behaviours) lurking within you. **vs 5a**

Recap



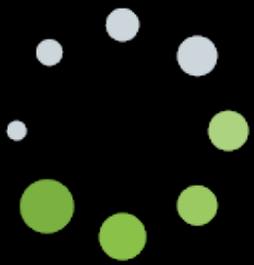
Christ is the
visible image of
the **invisible** God.
1:15



Letters to the Church, Francis Chan

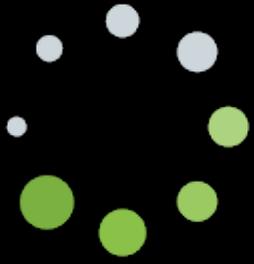
God's Church started as a radical, spiritually **intimate** gathering of believers that ultimately changed history. Yet millions today are content to be mere **observers** at church. Many more have left, brokenhearted and cynical.

If all you had to reference were the Bible, **what would Church look like?**

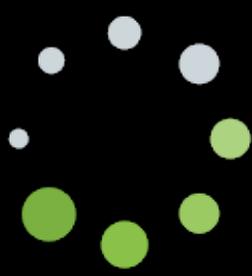


“The people who hanged Christ never, to do them justice, accused him of being a bore - on the contrary, they thought him **too dynamic to be safe**. It has been left for later generations to muffle up that shattering personality and surround him with an atmosphere of **tedium**. We have efficiently **pared the claws of the Lion of Judah**, certified him "meek and mild" and recommended him as a fitting household pet for pale curates and pious old ladies.”

Dorothy L. Sayers, Letters to a Diminished Church



**We have buildings full of Christians
who don't resemble Jesus**

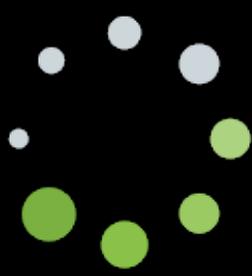


Colossians 3:12-15

Since God chose you to be the **holy people** he loves...**vs 12a**

**“holy” may be the most
misunderstood word in the bible**

note the plural

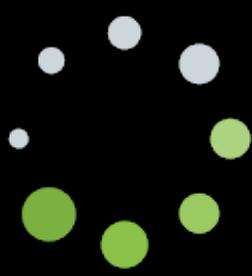


Colossians 3:12-15

you must **clothe**
yourselves with
tenderhearted
mercy,
kindness,
humility,
gentleness, and
patience. **vs 12b**

Paul in the previous verses gave us the
do not do, now he shifts to show what
behaviour in community looks like

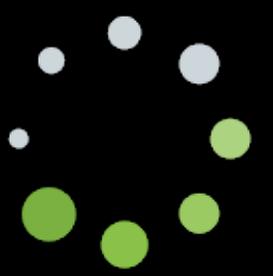
he also seems to believe this behaviour is a choice



Colossians 3:12-15

Make **allowance** for each
other's faults, **vs 13a**

Paul is reminding us that we are not perfect

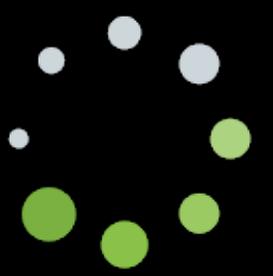


Colossians 3:12-15

and forgive anyone who **offends** you. **vs 13**

I'm Offended! By Easily-Offended Christians
Karl Vaters

When we spend our anger on **trivial things,
we lose the opportunity to be taken
seriously when truly horrible things happen.**

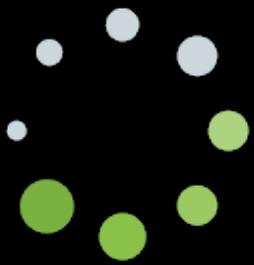


Colossians 3:12-15

and forgive anyone who **offends** you. **vs 13**

I'm Offended! By Easily-Offended Christians **Karl Vaters**

**Here's something we never hear, but should.
"Hey, those Christians never seem to get upset,
no matter what we throw at them, but they're
really angry about how many kids in our city
are going to bed hungry tonight. Maybe we
should listen and help them change things."**



Cycle of Offence

offence (the event)

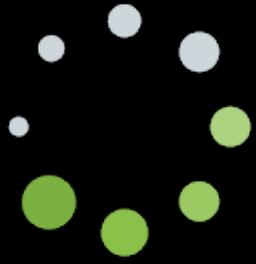
stop giving

stop serving

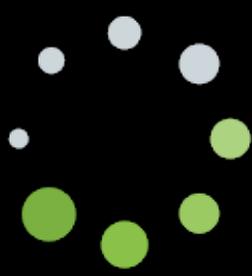
stop participating

stagnation/spiritual death

Colossians 3:12-15



**offence today seems to revolve
around two concepts, ego or comfort**



Colossians 3:12-15

the **Lord** forgave you, so you
must forgive others. **vs 13**

“To be a Christian means to forgive the
inexcusable, because God has forgiven the
inexcusable in you.” **C S Lewis, The Weight of Glory**

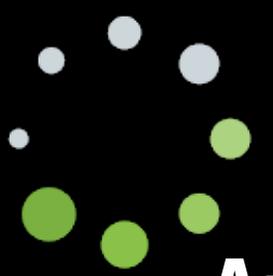
Colossians 3:12-15

Above all, **clothe** yourselves with love, which **binds us** all together in perfect **harmony**. **vs 14**



**Steel core rope, 900 kg
(1984.16 lbs) bearing
force classification**

**Agreement in feeling or
opinion; accord.
Combining different
tones to make one song**

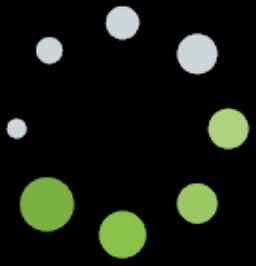


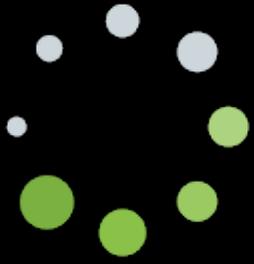
Colossians 3:12-15

And let the **peace** that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as **members of one body** you are called to live in **peace**.
And always be thankful. **vs 15**

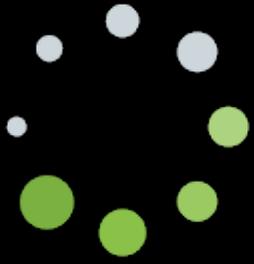
Eirene-of the Messiah's peace, the way that leads to peace (salvation)

the body/church is Jesus, so when we act or behave in ways that hurt or harm that body what do we really believe about Jesus?





No one hates his own body but feeds and cares for it, just as Christ cares for the church. And we are members of his body.
Ephesians 5:29



This is a great **mystery**, but it is an illustration of the way **Christ and the church are one**. **vs 32**