

*Following Jesus  
from fear*

*to love.*



**August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
to  
September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Red Hills Church**

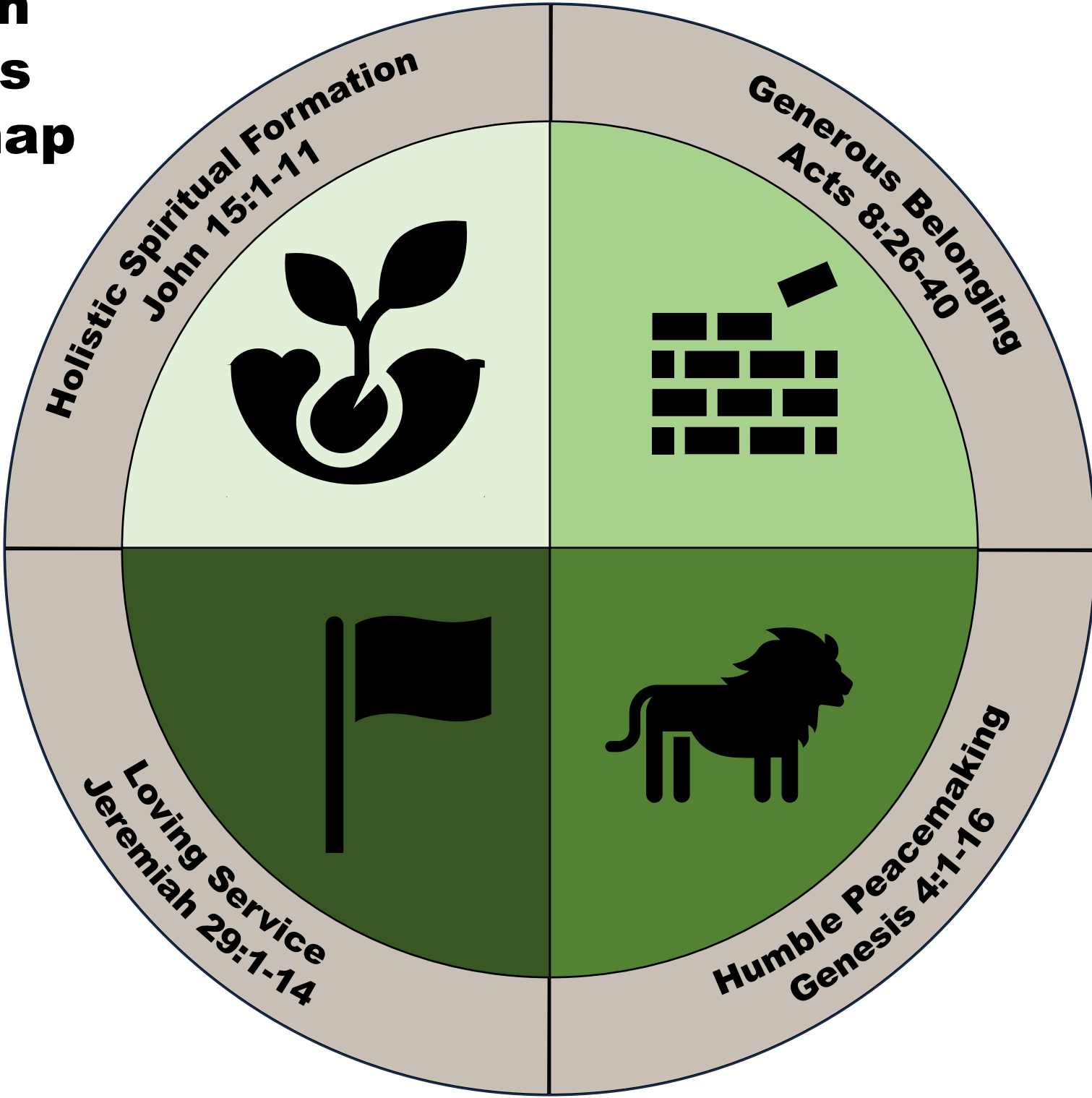
## Series Summary

We shared reflections from John, Acts, Genesis, and Jeremiah to develop an understanding of Red Hills' vision within our community. We emphasized how intimacy with Jesus, a prioritization of the marginalized, control over our inhuman desires, and a commitment to our call as ambassadors are central to our corporate identity. From these insights we defined four core values intended to guide where we invest our energies as a church: holistic spiritual formation, generous belonging, humble peacemaking, and loving service. Collectively, these become the primary avenues through which we seek to enact and realize our church narrative:

*That we have a dream that one day, all people in our community would be fully embraced, fully transformed in Christ. But the problem is our world is driven by fear, thus we create cultures of division, isolation, and shame. That is why we exist, to foster a community following Jesus from fear to love.*

[Identity Framework for Red Hills Church](#)

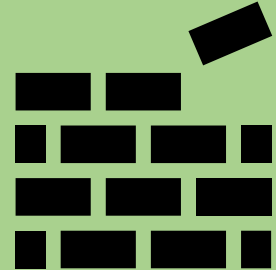
# Vision Series Roadmap



**Holistic Spiritual Formation**  
John 15:1-11



**Generous Belonging**  
Acts 8:26-40



**Loving Service**  
Jeremiah 29:1-14



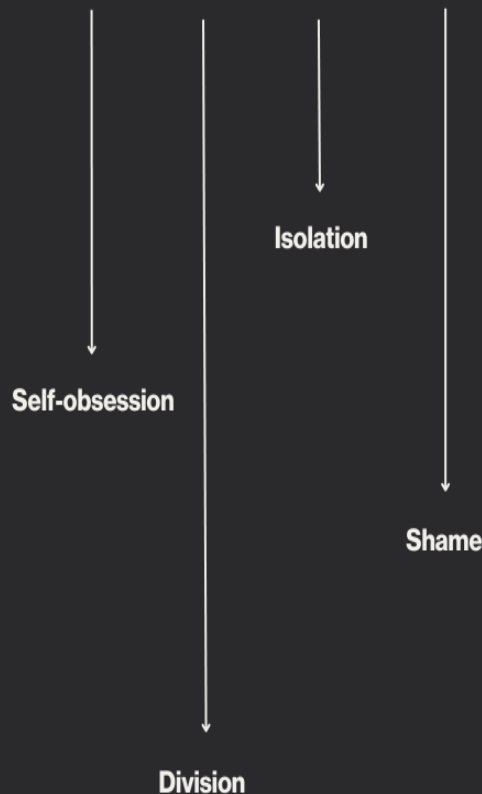
**Humble Peacemaking**  
Genesis 4:1-16



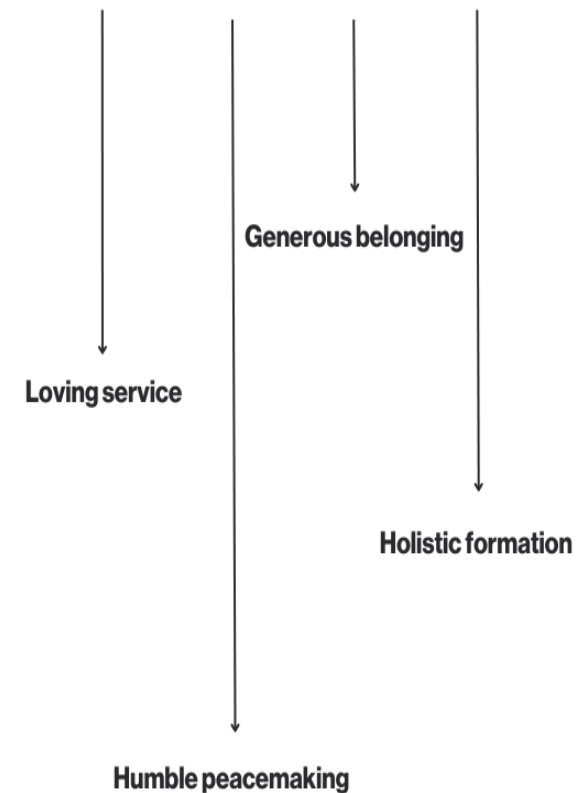
# Sermon Main Points

1. Formation is a process of being cultivated in Christ, it requires time in His word and His love.
2. Christ brings a kingdom that was built with the marginalized and outcast in mind.
3. Peacemaking is the proactive effort of surrendering our inhuman impulses to become wholly restored in Christ.
4. Wherever we are, if we are followers of Christ, we are called to be ambassadors of His kingdom.

*Cultures of fear.*



*Community of Love.*

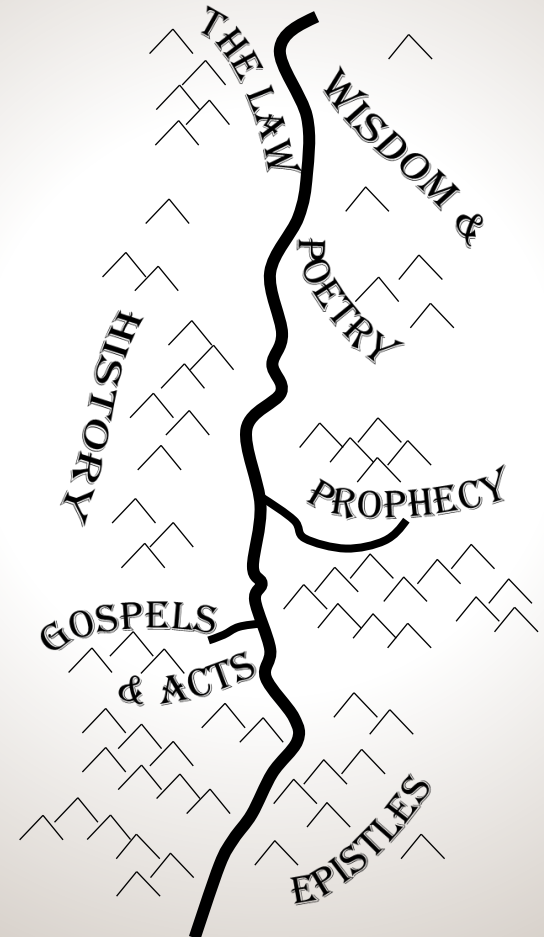




# References and Additional Readings

- Rich Villodas, [Gospel Truth vs. Cultural Reality](#)
- John Mark Comer, [Rest for Your Soul](#)
- James K.A. Smith, [You Are What You Love Ch. 1](#)
- Henry Nouwen, [The Inner Voice of Love, pg. 31](#)
- Dallas Willard, [The Spirit of the Disciplines](#)
- Dr. Gregory Coles, [No Longer Strangers, Ch. 10](#)
- Dr. Amy Oden, [Right Here Right Now Ch. 1](#)
- David Augsberger, [Caring Enough to Hear Ch. 3](#)
- Luis Palau, [Florida Baptist Convention](#)
- Martin Luther King Jr., [St Louis Post-Dispatch](#)
- C.S. Lewis, [Prince Caspian Ch. 9](#)
- Allan Ross & John Oswalt, [Genesis Commentary](#)
- @saltandgoldcollection, [Footwashing Series](#)

## [“Bible Basin” Explainer Video - Viewing the Bible as One Story](#)



# Vision Series: Holistic Spiritual Formation (1)

Red Hills Church – Lane Greenleaf-Perez  
August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**A Theology of Formation:** A theology explores what scripture says about a specific subject.

**Formation is a process of being cultivated in Christ, it requires time in His word and His love**



- Our spirit is always being formed, even if it is being deformed. ([12:51](#))
- Experiencing a shift in our thinking, requires a shift in our affection. ([15:22](#))
- Fear is a normal reflex. Succumbing to fear, obeying fear, that breeds brokenness. ([26:46](#))

## References and Additional Reading:

- Rich Villodas, [Gospel Truth vs. Cultural Reality](#)
- John Mark Comer, [Rest for Your Soul](#)
- James K.A. Smith, [You Are What You Love Ch. 1](#)
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## How does this relate to the rest of the bible?

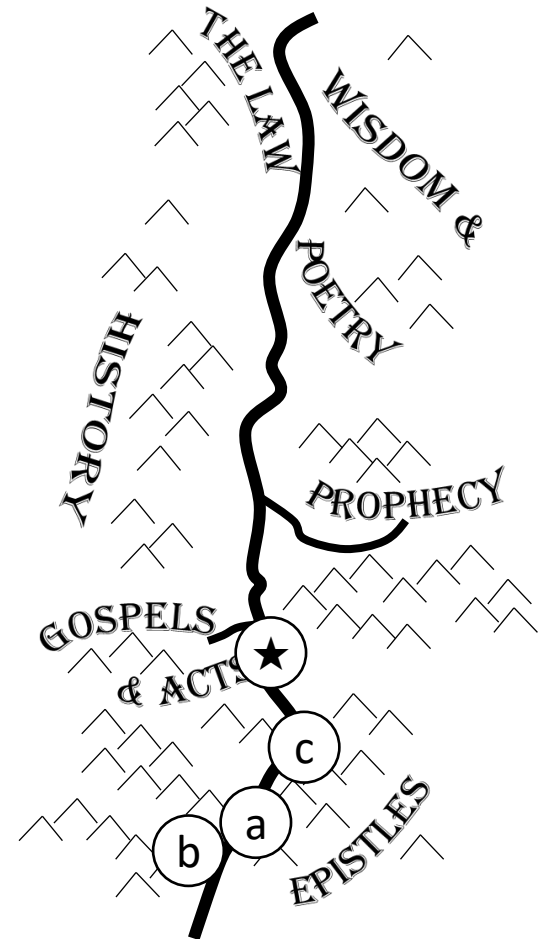
This passage is found in the Apostle John's historical narrative of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. The focus of John's Gospel is to inspire faith in the Son of God. In all accounts, Jesus uses the grapevine as an illustration of Israel. Unique to John's Gospel is the repeated use of "in me", aligning with John's intent to identify Jesus as the source of salvation.

## Passage Outline: John 15:1-11

1. v.1-2 The vine and the gardener
2. v.3 Cleansed by the knowledge of Christ
3. v.4-7 Remain in the vine, abide in Christ
4. v.8 Glory in fruit
5. v.10-11 Make your joy complete

## Other Scriptures:

- a) 2 Tim 1 ([1:48](#))
- b) 1 John 4 ([1:48](#))
- c) 1 Cor 13 ([6:28](#))



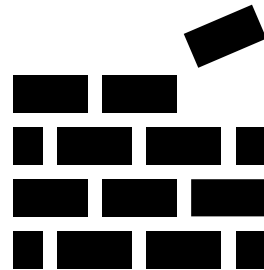
# Vision Series:

## Generous Belonging (2)

Red Hills Church – Lane Greenleaf-Perez  
September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023

**A Theology of Belonging:** A theology explores what scripture says about a specific subject.

Christ brings a kingdom that was built with the marginalized and outcast in mind



- Our capacity to love everyone is dependent upon our willingness to love anyone. ([19:50](#))
- It's one thing to say, yeah, all are welcome here. Anyone can show up. It's another thing to say, hey, we built this with you in mind. ([32:25](#))
- Our proximity to religion is far less important than the orientation of our lives towards Jesus. ([43:49](#))

### References and Additional Reading:

- Dr. Gregory Coles, [No Longer Strangers, Ch. 10](#)
- Dr. Amy Oden, [Right Here Right Now Ch. 1](#)
- David Augsberger, [Caring Enough to Hear Ch. 3](#)
- Luis Palau, [Florida Baptist Convention](#)

## How does this relate to the rest of the bible?

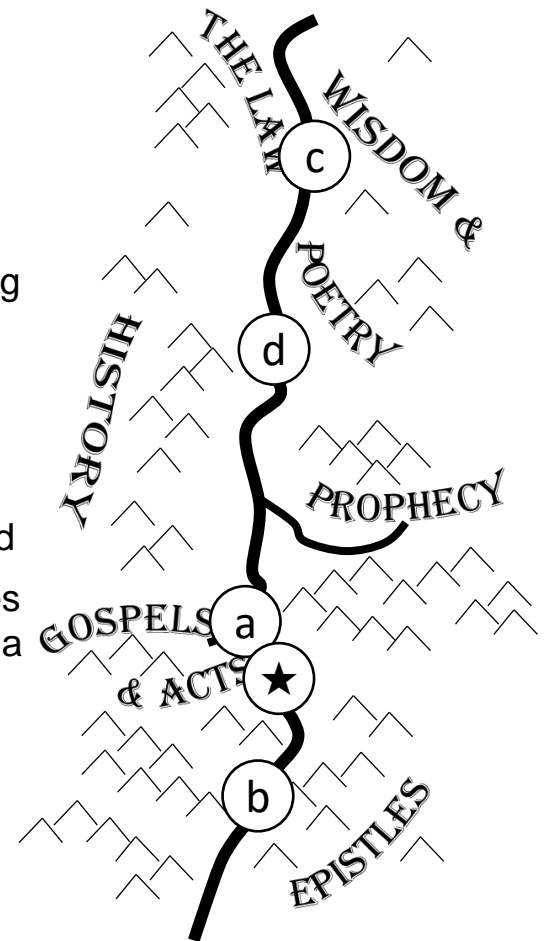
This passage is found in the Apostle Luke's historical narrative of the disciples' ministry after Jesus' ascension. The Acts of the Apostles describes the geographic expansion of the Gospel message. The encounter between Philip and the Ethiopian illustrates how the faithfulness of God and His believers work together to expand His kingdom.

### Passage Outline: Acts 8:26-40

1. v.26-31 An angel directs Philip to the Ethiopian eunuch
2. v.32-33 The teaching of Isaiah
3. v.34-35 The sharing of the Gospel
4. v.36-39 The Ethiopian is baptized
5. v.40 Phillip continues preaching in Samaria

### Other Scriptures:

- a) Matt 7 ([18:30](#))
- b) James 1 ([21:53](#))
- c) Duet 6 ([21:53](#))
- d) Isa 56-57 ([29:26](#))



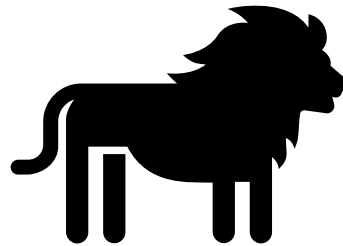
# Vision Series:

## Humble Peacemaking (3)

Red Hills Church – Lane Greenleaf-Perez  
September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**A Theology of Peacemaking:** A theology explores what scripture says about a specific subject.

**Peacemaking is the proactive effort of surrendering our inhuman impulses to become wholly restored in Christ**



- Our heavenly mandate is to look to Jesus and have dominion over our inhuman desires. ([17:39](#))
- Without Jesus, we will never be fully human. ([22:31](#))
- The power of the gospel is in the ability for us to be redeemed and reconciled even after we have sinned. ([26:33](#))
- The pathway to peace, is to give one's life for those we love, including our enemies. ([32:13](#))

### References and Additional Reading:

- Martin Luther King Jr., [St Louis Post-Dispatch](#)
- C.S. Lewis, [Prince Caspian Ch. 9](#)
- Allan Ross & John Oswalt, [Genesis Commentary](#)
- @saltandgoldcollection, [Footwashing Series](#)

## How does this relate to the rest of the bible?

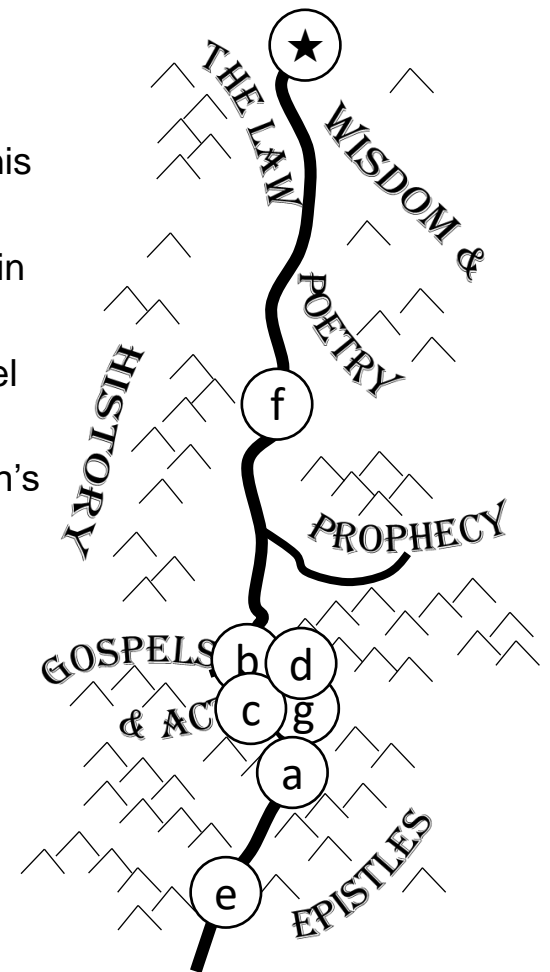
Attributed to Moses, this passage is found in the primeval accounts of Genesis (chapters 1-11). Collectively, this section provides an essential historical background for understanding God's covenant relationship with humankind. Cain's murder is illustrative of the immanent violence brought about by the sinful desires first introduced in Genesis 3.

### Passage Outline: Genesis 4:1-16

1. v.1-5 Cain resents his offering's rejection
2. v.6-7 God urges Cain to control his anger
3. v.8-12 Cain kills Abel
4. v.13-16 Grace endures amidst Cain's judgement

### Other Scriptures:

- a) Rom 12 ([6:26](#))
- b) Matt 5 ([6:53](#))
- c) John 13 ([10:20](#))
- d) Matt 12 ([20:23](#))
- e) 1 John 4 ([24:18](#))
- f) Isa 2 ([30:27](#))
- g) John 18 ([31:05](#))





# Vision Series: Loving Service (4)

Red Hills Church – Kate Swanson  
September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**A Theology of Service:** A theology explores what scripture says about a specific subject.

**Wherever we are,  
if we are followers  
of Christ, we are  
called to be  
ambassadors of  
His kingdom**



- As the people of God empowered by the Holy Spirit, we are to be the living embodiment of heaven come to earth. ([11:13](#))
- With the call of God on our lives, we have said that this is my home, and I care about making it a better place. ([13:13](#))
- When you belong to God, your most important title is representing the kingdom of God. ([17:11](#))
- God is calling us to this kind of resident alien, exiled elder, ambassadorship that is contending for the kingdom of heaven. ([17:31](#))
- We have work to do while we're in exile, awaiting the fulfillment of God's promises. ([20:07](#))

## How does this relate to the rest of the bible?

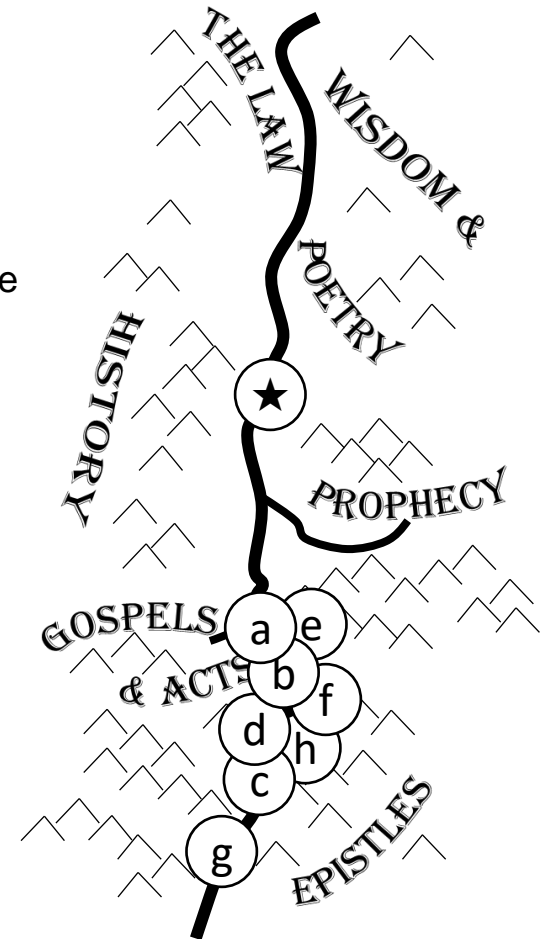
This passage is found in the prophet Jeremiah's collection of poetry and prose exhorting the Judeans to repent. Jeremiah prepares the Israelites for life in exile and warns against the false prophets' dismissal of their judgement. In chapter 29 God encourages them to establish themselves, champion peace, and look forward to the hope and promise of liberation.

### Passage Outline: Jeremiah 29:1-14

1. v.1-3 Letter preface
2. v.4-9 The Lord's directive to settle and champion peace
3. v.10-14 The Lord's promise of hope

### Other Scriptures:

- a) Matt 6 ([9:43](#))
- b) John 1 ([10:35](#))
- c) Phil 3 ([14:50](#))
- d) 2 Cor ([16:01](#))
- e) Matt 5 ([19:13](#))
- f) Rom 5 ([23:28](#))
- g) 1 Pet 2 ([26:27](#))
- h) Eph 4 ([26:27](#))



These sermon notes are continually evolving. If you have suggestions for improvement, [please share them here!](#)