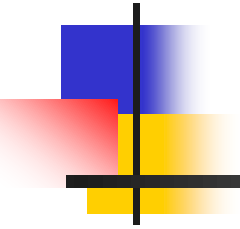
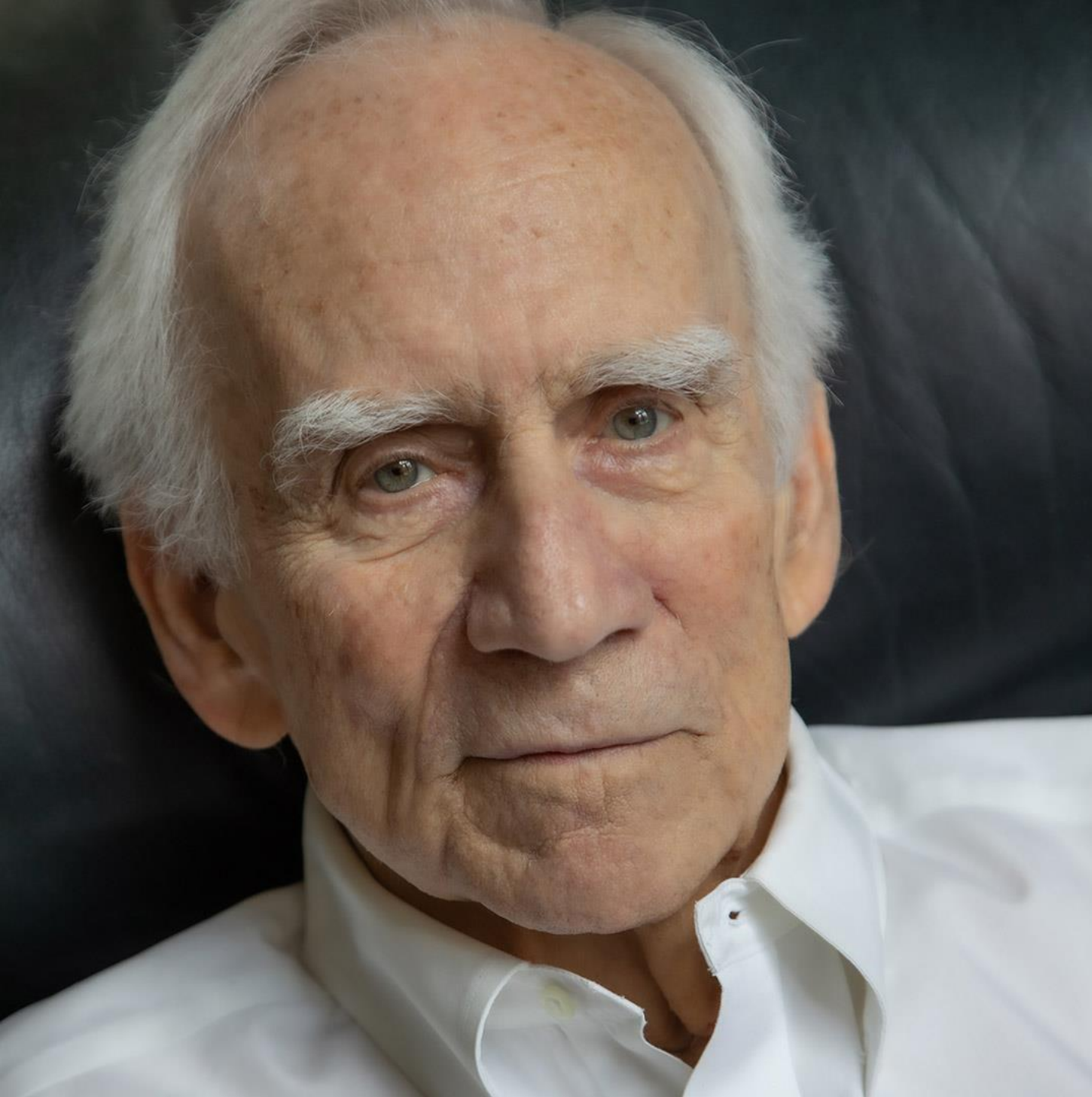


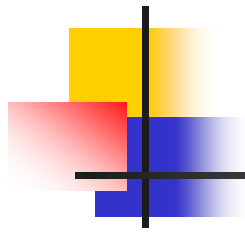
Repent and Become the Gospel





**Archie
Parrish**

1932-2019



Rethinking Church

80%

of the time, talent and resources of a local church is spent on care, feeding and maintenance members, equipment and buildings

Only 20%

is invested in ministry/outreach in the local community in a way that would connect new people to Jesus, transform culture, and extend His Kingdom



Harvest Time – Matt 9:35-38

⁵ Jesus was going through all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness. ³⁶ Seeing the [ab]people, He felt compassion for them, because they were [ac]distressed and [ad]dispirited like sheep [ae]without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then He *said to His disciples, **"The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. ³⁸ Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest."**



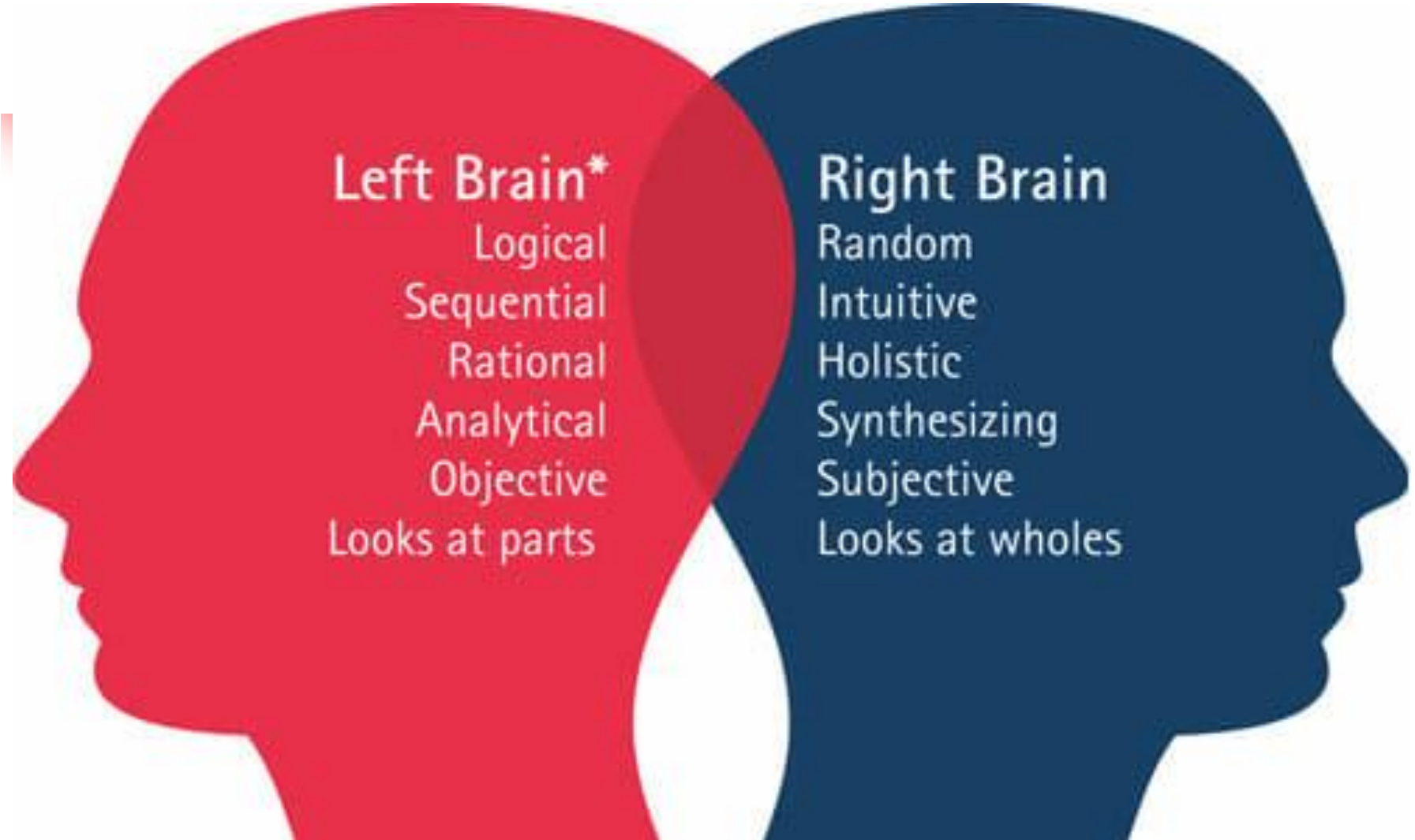
The Mirror(cal) Worker

- Wherever Jesus went, people were helped, healed and set free. That is his plan and purpose today
- He was overwhelmed with compassion, as he saw their deep pain and lost condition. He still is and the Holy Spirit is calling us to care, too
- Where are the workers? Take a look in the mirror. You are looking at that person every morning. We are the workers for the harvest
- But our focus has been too much on inside the church building



Becoming the Gospel

- The time has passed for just believing the Gospel and showing up once a week and being a consumer of church ministries
- God is calling us to **BECOME the Gospel** in someone else's life and in this city
- Where are the workers He is calling into the harvest in our community? We are looking at them, We are sitting in the midst of them. **WE ARE THEM!**
- Do you want to **BECOME** the Gospel? Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will be Done...



And Then we start trying to figure out. What should we do? What should we start? What should we stop? Maybe we could do this??? Right! Let's ask God to help us do THIS!!! And the whole non-productive cycle starts over again.



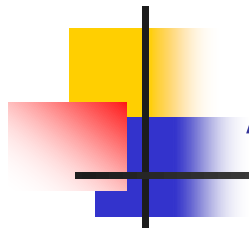
Repent: Change Your Thinking

- 4 [d] Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for [e]what the Father had promised “Which you heard of from Me; 5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized [f]with the Holy Spirit [g]not many days from now.” Acts 1:4-5
- They knew Jesus personally, taught by Him, saw Him ALIVE again, Highly Motivated, yet Jesus said WAIT for the Spirit to fill you and empower and guide



Not ABOUT Us and Our Plan

- What would have happened if the disciples hadn't waited for and relied upon the Holy Spirit to fill and anoint and guide and empower? Just set out on their own?
- But for once in their lives they obeyed. They went back to the upper room and just waited and prayed. They continually devoted themselves to prayer and sought to hear from God for **10 days**. The rest is history!!



Acts 3 – Moment of Truth

Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the [a]ninth *hour*, the hour of prayer. ² And a man who had been lame from his mother's womb was being carried along, whom they used to set down every day at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, in order to beg [b]alms

³ When he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple, he *began* asking to receive alms. (*Moment of truth. What shall we do?*)



Praying Outside the Box

⁴ But Peter, along with John, fixed his gaze on him and said, “Look at us!” ⁵ And he *began* to give them his attention, expecting to receive something from them. ⁶ **But Peter said, “I do not possess silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you: In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene—walk!”** ⁷ And seizing him by the right hand, he raised him up; and immediately his feet and his ankles were strengthened.



To GOD Be the GLORY!!

8 [c] With a leap he stood upright and *began* to walk; and **he entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God.** 9 **And all the people saw him walking and praising God;** 10 and they were taking note of him as being the one who used to sit at the Beautiful Gate of the temple to *beg* alms, and they were **filled with wonder and amazement** at what had happened to him.



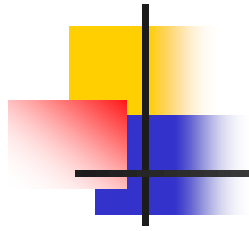
Expect the Unexpected

- Jeremiah 33:3 – “Call on Me and I will show you Great and Mighty things you DID NOT KNOW”
- We need to hear from God and be led by the Holy Spirit. And Pray outside the box.
- Don’t start with a list of possibilities we could or should do.
- Start with a blank slate, “Holy Spirit, Give us direction and understanding
- Wait on HIM, and Expect the unexpected.



Homework

- Meeting Wednesday night at 6:30
- Between now and then, pray outside the box and just listen and write down what you think God shows you
- What is your word for me right now
- What is your word for our church
- Wait for Him to reveal and guide and empower
- When He comes you will know. We will ALL KNOW



Jesus + Nothing = EVERYTHING

- deeply **loved** by God,
- fully **accepted** by God,
- completely and permanently **forgiven** by God,
- lavishly **blessed** by God,
- and eternally, perfectly **embraced** by God as his child; a child who brings Him unspeakable JOY