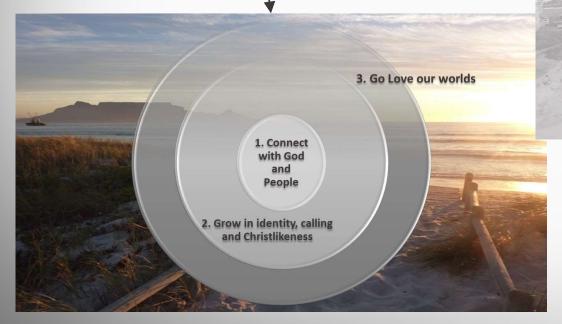


Intro:

- Childlike faith
- Raise Your Expectations





1.2 Only Church can fulfil our 5 most basic needs:

Rick Warren writes in 'Purpose Driven Church':

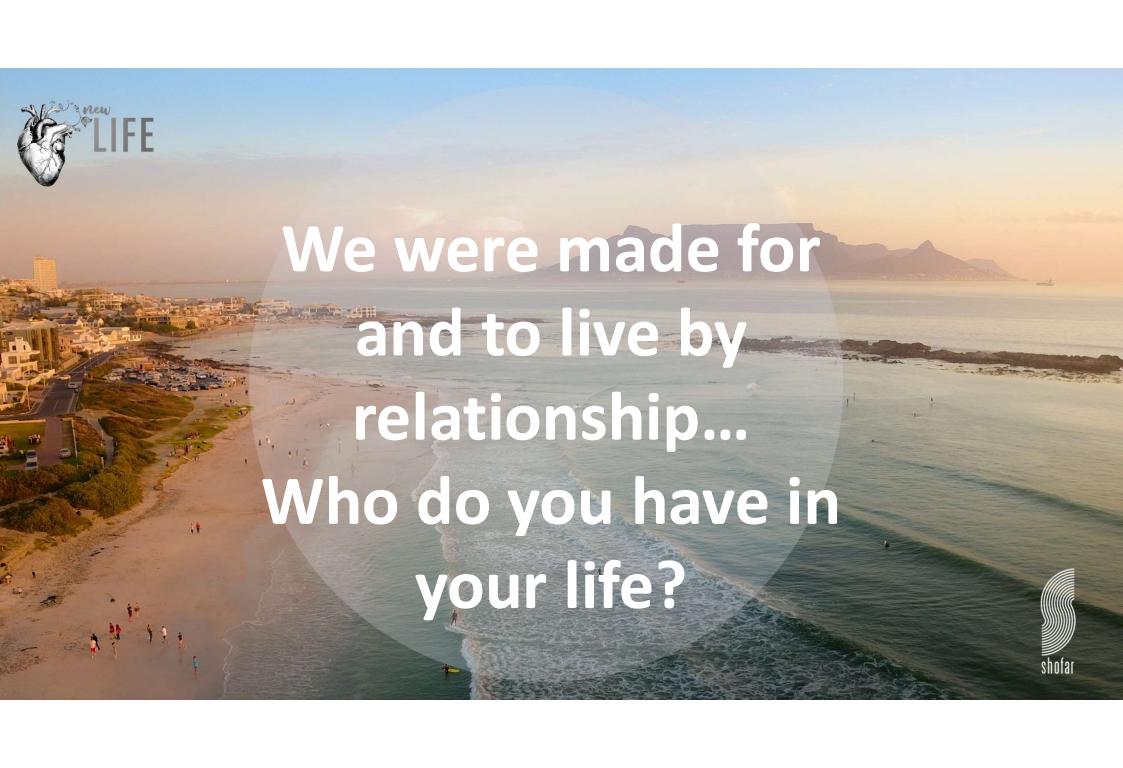
In light of the **Great Commandment** (Matthew 22:37–40) and the **Great Commission** (Matthew 28:19–20):

The 'Why'-Purposes of a healthy Church that fulfil us:

- 1. Worship
- 2. Fellowship
- 3. Discipleship
- 4. Ministry
- 5. Mission

Scripture calls us to be part of a Church family:

Acts 2:41-46 Those who believed... were baptized and added to the church... 42 All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer...44 And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had... 46 They worshiped together at the **Temple** each day, **met in homes** for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity.



1. The Word:

Mark 2 The Son of Man Forgives and Heals When He entered Capernaum again after some days, it was reported that He was at home. 2 So many people gathered together that there was no more room, not even in the doorway, and He was speaking the message to them. 3 Then they came to Him bringing a paralytic, carried by four men. 4 Since they were not able to bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above where He was. And when they had broken through, they lowered the mat on which the paralytic was lying. 5 Seeing their faith, Jesus told the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." 6 But some of the scribes were sitting there, thinking to themselves: 7 "Why does He

speak like this? He's blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God

alone?" Right away Jesus understood in His spirit that they were thinking like this within themselves and said to them, "Why are you thinking these things in your hearts? 9 Which is easier: to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, pick up your mat, and walk'? 10 But so you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins," He told the paralytic, 11 "I tell you: get up, pick up your mat, and go home." 12 Immediately he got up, picked up the mat, and went out in front of everyone. As a result, they were all astounded and gave glory to God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

1.1 What we see in Scripture →

1.1 What we see in Scripture I Mark 2:



1.1 What we see in Scripture:

- Paralytic person: paralysis I the loss of the ability to move (and sometimes to feel anything) in part or most of the body, typically as a result of illness, poison, or injury.
- > He was carried by four men who did what?
- > Jesus heals Him by forgiving His sins | Sin leads to sickness*
- Healing comes from FAITH

Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

1.1 What we see in Scripture...:

Whose faith? God loves and responds to faith

Hebrews 11:6 And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

We see the Scribes I 'A member of a learned class in ancient Israel through New Testament times studying the Scriptures and serving as copyists, editors, teachers, and jurists.' I Religious folk.

2. Who are your friends?

Surrounding ourselves with who? Investing where?

Let's put ourselves in the shoes of our friend in Mark 2

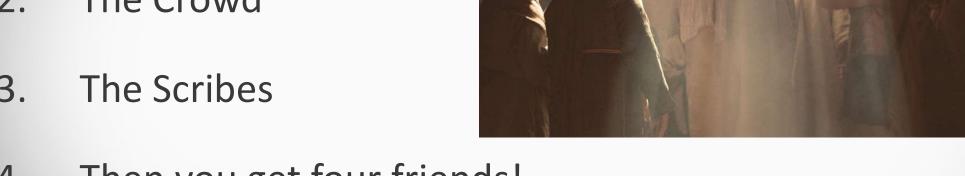
When spiritual and emotional paralysis hit →

Isolation Depression Arrogance
Sin Fear Sickness Hopelessness
Anxiety Deception Lack Loss
Temptation Pride Blindness

WE SEE A COUPLE OF GROUPS

Couple of groups here: 2.1

- The World
- The Crowd



Then you get four friends!

Who do you need?

2.2 Who shows you Jesus?

Who do you hang with?

Who do connect with?

Where do you invest your life?

Who points you to Jesus, will fight for you and bring you to the feet of Christ?

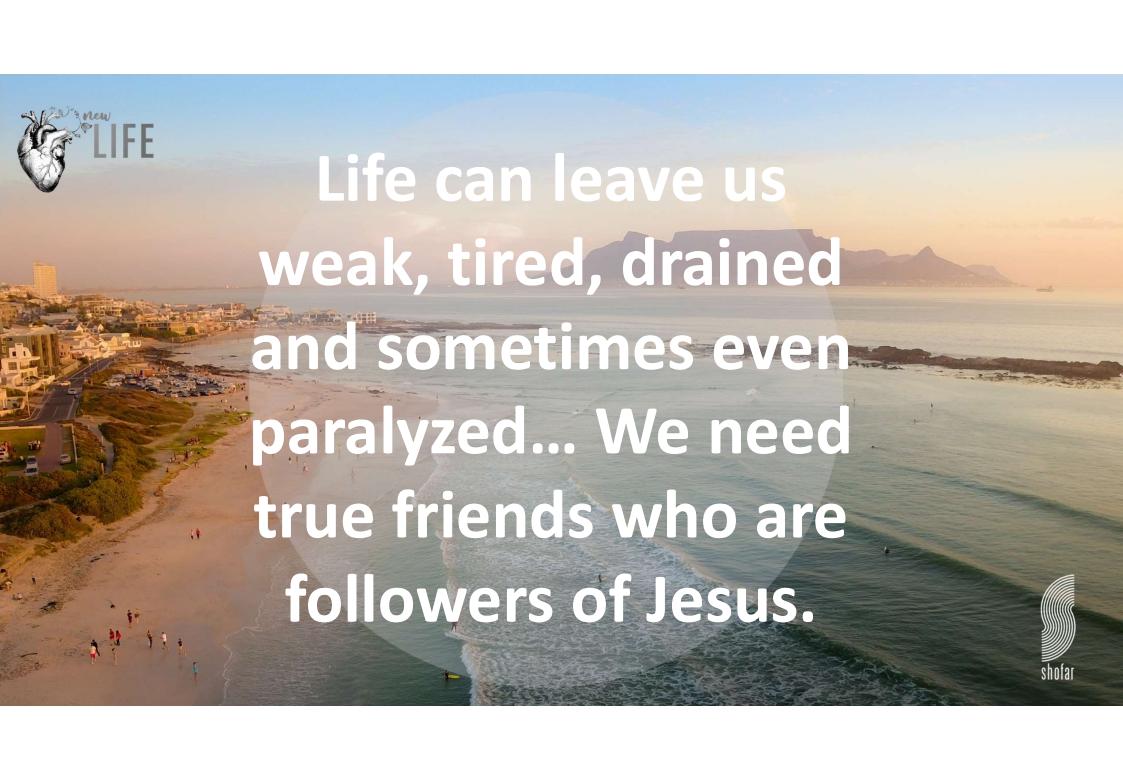
→ The World, the crowd, the religious people or the friends

Friends of Jesus I The true followers and **DISCIPLES** of Jesus

John 13:35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.



CARRY ME TO CHRIST



3. Who are you to others?

Are we giving others \rightarrow

- The World
- 2. The Crowd
- 3. The Scribes
- 4. Being friends and true disciples of Jesus



CARRY OTHERS TO CHRIST

