

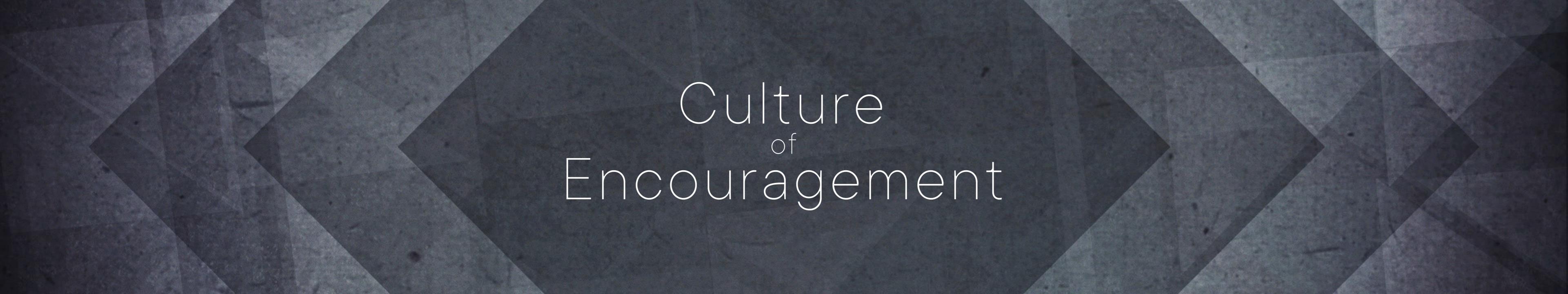


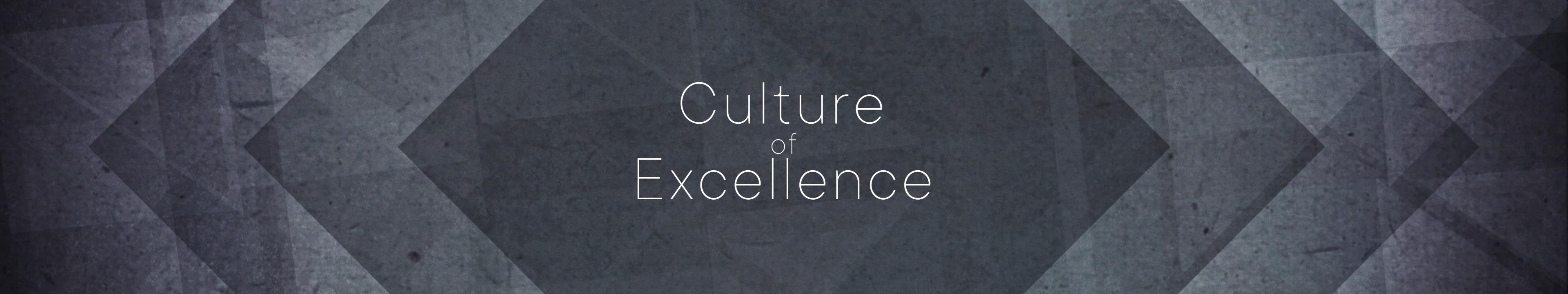


# Church











#### Case Study: Daniel

While Israel was in exile, King Darius appointed 120 officials over the kingdom of Babylon, and over them three presidents.

"Daniel was preferred above the other presidents and officials because an excellent spirit was in him, and the king thought to set him over the whole realm.

"An excellent spirit, knowledge and understanding to interpret dreams, explain riddles, and solve problems were found in this Daniel."

**DANIEL 5:12, 6:1-3** 

#### **Excellent** Character

Daniel purposed in his heart that he **would not defile himself** with the portion of the king's food, nor with the wine which he drank. **DANIEL 1:8** 

"They could find no corruption in him, because he was **trustworthy**, **neither corrupt nor negligent**. Finally they said, 'We will never find any basis for charges against Daniel unless it has something to do with the law of his God." DANIEL 6:4-5

"They have not hurt me, because I was found **innocent** in God's sight. Nor have I ever done any wrong before you, Your Majesty." DANIEL 6:22

#### Excellent Competence

(Daniel was one of the) youths in whom was no blemish, who were handsome and skilful in every branch of wisdom and gifted with understanding and discerning knowledge, and had ability in them to serve in the king's palace ...

God gave them **knowledge and skill** in every branch of learning and wisdom; Daniel had understanding in all kinds of visions and dreams.

In all matters of wisdom and understanding which the king inquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers that were in all his realm. DANIEL 1:4, 17, 20

#### **Excellent** Chemistry

Now God had brought Daniel into **favour** and compassion with the master of the officials. **DANIEL 1:9** 

When Arioch, the commander of the king's guard, had gone out to put to death the wise men of Babylon, Daniel spoke to him with wisdom and tact." DANIEL 2:14

The king advanced Daniel and made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon and chief of the governors over all the wise men of Babylon. Then Daniel requested of the king, and he set Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego over the affairs of the province of Babylon. But Daniel sat at the court of the king. DANIEL 2:48-49

# Excellent Character + Excellent Competence + Excellent Chemistry = Excellent Culture

#### HOW DO MEN APPRAISE MEN?

By what they can see. Measurables. Grades. Results.





#### **HOW DOES GOD APPRAISE MEN?**

When Jesse and his sons arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed stands here before the Lord."

But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. **People look at the outward appearance**, but the Lord looks at the heart." 1 SAMUEL 16:6-7

He raised up David to be king, of whom He said, 'I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after My own heart. ACTS 13:22, 1 SAMUEL 13:14





Outward appearance vs our heart vs God's heart





#### GOD'S HEART IS <u>LOVING</u> – AND HE DESIRES THE SAME OF US

It is my prayer that **your love may abound more and more**, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is **excellent**, and so be **pure and blameless** for the day of Christ. **PHILIPPIANS 1:9-10** 

#### GOD'S HEART IS <u>PURE</u> – AND HE DESIRES THE SAME OF US

Finally, brothers, whatever is **true**, whatever is **honourable**, whatever is **just**, whatever is **pure**, whatever is **lovely**, whatever is **commendable**, if there is any **excellence**, if there is anything **worthy of praise**, think about these things. **PHILIPPIANS 4:8** 

#### GOD'S HEART IS <u>REDEMPTIVE</u> – AND HE DESIRES THE SAME OF US

You are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. 1 PETER 2:9

#### GOD'S HEART IS <u>GRACIOUS</u> – AND HE DESIRES THE SAME OF US

Since you **excel** in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you—see that you also **excel** in this grace of giving. 2 **corinthians 8:7** 

## A culture of excellence reveals Christ-like Character

Whatever we do, we do with the heart of God

#### Excellent Character

- + Excellent Competence
- + Excellent Chemistry
- = Excellent Culture

### Excellent Competence

God is not impressed by talent.
After all, He gave us these talents!

But God wants to see how we use our talents.



God is not impressed by talent. After all, He gave us these talents!

But God wants to see how we use our talents.

#### CASE STUDY: PARABLE OF THE TALENTS (MATT 25:24-30)

- One made a profit of 5 talents. Another made a profit of 2 talents. But both made **100% profit** compared to what was given to them.
- As a result, they both received the **exact same commendation**.
- "Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master."

God is not impressed by talent.
After all, He gave us these talents!

But God wants to see how we use our talents.

#### CASE STUDY: SAMSON - USED HIS STRENGTH FOR WOMEN

- "Must you go to the Philistines to get a wife?" (Judges 14:3)
- Used his strength to fight enemies to visit a prostitute (16:1-3)
- Lost his strength when seduced by Delilah (16:17)



God is not impressed by talent.
After all, He gave us these talents!

But God wants to see how we use our talents.

#### CASE STUDY: SAMSON – A FITTING END

"Sovereign Lord, remember me. Please, God, strengthen me just once more ... Let me die with the Philistines!" He pushed with all his might, and down came the temple on the rulers and all the people in it. Thus he killed many more when he died than while he lived. (16:30)



To God, excellence is not that we be the best, but that we do our best, and give Him our best.

#### The Spirit of Excellence

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

COLOSSIANS 3:23-24

"... work at it with your whole being"
"... put all of yourself into it"
"... do all you do with your whole soul"

#### The Spirit of Excellence

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

COLOSSIANS 3:23-24

"Excellent spirit"
What God calls you to do, do swee swee!



Antioch Summit 2024

#### Thu, 26 Sep

Dear Pastor Edric, we would like to compliment the ushering team last Sunday's 1st service. We have been attending BBTC for so many, never felt so welcome until last Sunday. The ushers gave us a big smile and their overwhelming welcome started right from the lift to the third level and spill over into the sanctuary. Wow!!! We really felt the love and warmth . Please give them a pat on their backs and thank them on our behalf.

Btw, they were all wearing red T shirts, easily identifiable.

Edited 8:32 PM

So nice of you to spare the moment to encourage them \$\( \begin{align\*}{c} \end{align\*} \) 8:49 PM \( \text{//} \end{align\*}

Give credit when credit is due! They deserve the praises!! Lucy is in the team , I think

#### Competence is part of our witness

"Do you see a man skilful in his work? He will stand before kings; he will not stand before obscure men." PROVERBS 22:29

"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." MATTHEW 5:16

"Teach slaves to be subject to their masters in everything, to try to please them, not to talk back to them, and not to steal from them, but to show they can be fully trusted, so that in every way they will make the teaching about God our Saviour attractive." TITUS 2:9-10

#### Daniel's competence was his witness

#### KING NEBUCHADNEZZAR

"Truly your God is a God of gods, and a Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, since you could reveal this secret." DANIEL 2:47

#### KING DARIUS

"I make a decree that in every dominion of my kingdom men are to fear and tremble before the God of Daniel.

"For He is the living God ... He delivers and rescues, and He works signs and wonders in heaven and on earth, who has delivered Daniel from the power of the lions." DANIEL 6:26-27

A culture of excellence relies on Christ-given Competence

Whatever we do, we do with the anointing of God

"Now I will show you the most excellent way."

### Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues. Now eagerly desire the greater gifts.

And yet now I will show you the most excellent way.

**1 CORINTHIANS 12:27-31** 

#### And yet now I will show you the most excellent way.

If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal.

If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.

If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

... And now these three remain: faith, hope and love.
But the greatest of these is love.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:31-13:13

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1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-7
  _____ is patient, _____ is kind. _____ does not envy,
_____ does not boast, _____ is not proud. 5 _____ does
not dishonor others, _____ is not self-seeking, ____ is
     not easily angered, keeps no recorded
wrongs.6 _____ does not delight in evil but
the truth. 7 ____ always protects, always trusts, a
               hopes, always perseveres.
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#### Christ-pleasing Chemistry

The most excellent way for Christians is that we excel in love – how we treat one another.

A culture of excellence is a culture of love.

#### Christ-pleasing Chemistry

No condemnation, only constant encouragement

No comparison, only complementing one another

No competition, only celebrating one another

No complaining, only constructive conversations

No critical spirit, only charity (love in humility)

Love one another with brotherly affection.

Outdo one another in showing honour. ROMANS 12:10

#### Christ-pleasing Chemistry

Why does how we treat one another matter?

Because our love is our Christian witness.

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." JOHN 13:34-35

A culture of excellence reveals

Christ-like Character

Whatever we do, we do with the heart of God

A culture of excellence relies on

Christ-given Competence

Whatever we do, we do with the anointing of God

A culture of excellence requires

Christ-pleasing Chemistry

Whatever we do, we do with the love of God



My mum was suddenly diagnosed with terminal cancer in December 2023 and the doctors said she had 3 months left to live.

When my Cell Group (Jabez Central) found out, the entire Cell rallied and journeyed with my family through the extremely tough season. Besides covering us in prayers and checking in with us frequently, they became extra helping hands throughout, which was very much needed.

Their solidarity and support helped us through the season.

My Cell members have been so supportive.
As a divorcee with a child, I struggled with daily tasks like sending my child to preschool and making it on time for work.

My Cell Leader volunteered to fetch and drop my child off which helped to take a huge load off me. Cell members also always include us in their activities. We have become like part of their family.

Lots of love has been shared through meals together and fellowship.
As a result, my child has grown up knowing God.
They have all made an impact in my life.

My son stopped attending his youth Cell Group for a season.
But his Cell Leaders and fellow cellmates did not forget him and kept checking on him and greeted him when they saw him in church.

He felt welcomed and accepted by his cell and has started to attend Youth Church again.

Indeed God is good and faithful.

I thank God for these young Godly people in our church!































# #thisislove