

A Pervasive Presence

Small Group Questions

1. What stood out to you most from the message on Sunday?
2. What drew you to St. Albert Alliance Church originally? What are you most thankful for as you consider your experience at StAAC? What aspect of Kingdom life are you currently praying will increase at StAAC in the coming season?
3. a. Read Zechariah 8:1-3. Pastor Jeremy said on Sunday, *"We need to know the vision that Zechariah offers is not one of divine visitation but one of divine habitation."* What do you understand the difference to be between visitation and habitation? What might the differences be between a community that God 'visits' in comparison to one He 'inhabits'?
- b. Our first prayer goal for 2017 is stated this way: ***"To see a greater pursuit of the Presence of God as evidenced by persistent prayer, joy-filled worship, humble repentance and undeniable healing."*** How are you personally intentionally pursuing more of the Presence of God in your life in these days? What does your daily walk with God look like in this season?
4. Read Zechariah 8:4-8. Our second prayer goal is stated this way: ***"To see an increased sense of ownership for one another in relationship, leading to a greater experience of biblical community."***
Who do you know in our church family currently who might be experiencing isolation and exclusion? As a group, do some listening prayer and ask Jesus, *"Who would you like me to reach out to this week?"* Share with the group who comes to mind and then pause again and ask Jesus, *"How would you like me/us to encourage them this coming week?"* Pray for each other to have the courage to follow through (and touch base next week on how you followed through).
5. Read Zechariah 8:9-13. Share with the group which side of the spectrum you currently find yourself on. Are you in a season of "discouragement, resignation, and scarcity" or a season of "hope, perseverance, and abundance?" Take time to pray for each other.
6. Zechariah says that when the Kingdom of God is breaking out, He will make us "both a symbol and a source of blessing" (v.13). Where have you seen or experienced StAAC serving as a 'symbol and source of blessing' for others? Where should we still be praying for an increased presence of blessing in our city and community (perhaps where there isn't as much evidence that we are serving as a symbol and source of blessing)? Listen in prayer together and ask Jesus *"How can I personally be a source of blessing to someone this coming week?"*



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Jeremy Peters ~ March 26, 2017

Zechariah 8 NLT

¹Then another message came to me from the Lord of Heaven's Armies:

²"This is what the Lord of Heaven's Armies says: My love for Mount Zion is passionate and strong; I am consumed with passion for Jerusalem!"

³"And now the Lord says: I am returning to Mount Zion, **and I will live in Jerusalem.** Then Jerusalem will be called the Faithful City; the mountain of the Lord of Heaven's Armies will be called the Holy Mountain."

When the pervasive presence of the Kingdom of God is breaking out, it is a place of _____ not just _____.

For the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him.

2 Chronicles 16:9a NIV

⁴"This is what the Lord of Heaven's Armies says: Once again old men and women will walk Jerusalem's streets with their canes and will sit together in the city squares. ⁵And the streets of the city will be filled with boys and girls at play."

⁶"This is what the Lord of Heaven's Armies says: All this may seem impossible to you now, a small remnant of God's people. But is it impossible for me? says the Lord of Heaven's Armies."

⁷"This is what the Lord of Heaven's Armies says: You can be sure that I will rescue my people from the east and from the west. **⁸I will bring them home again to live safely in Jerusalem.** They will be my people, and I will be faithful and just toward them as their God."

When the pervasive presence of the Kingdom of God is breaking out, there is a move from _____ and exclusion to _____ and inclusion.

⁹*"This is what the Lord of Heaven's Armies says: Be strong and finish the task! Ever since the laying of the foundation of the Temple of the Lord of Heaven's Armies, you have heard what the prophets have been saying about completing the building. ¹⁰Before the work on the Temple began, there were no jobs and no money to hire people or animals. No traveler was safe from the enemy, for there were enemies on all sides. I had turned everyone against each other."*

¹¹*"But now I will not treat the remnant of my people as I treated them before, says the Lord of Heaven's Armies. ¹²For I am planting seeds of peace and prosperity among you. The grapevines will be heavy with fruit. The earth will produce its crops, and the heavens will release the dew. Once more I will cause the remnant in Judah and Israel to inherit these blessings. ¹³Among the other nations, Judah and Israel became symbols of a cursed nation. But no longer! **Now I will rescue you and make you both a symbol and a source of blessing.** So don't be afraid. Be strong, and get on with rebuilding the Temple!"*

When the Kingdom of God is breaking out, there is a move from discouragement, _____, and scarcity to a place of hope, _____ and abundance.

Genesis 12:2-3 NIV

*"I will make you into a great nation,
and I will bless you;
I will make your name great,
and you will be a blessing.
I will bless those who bless you,
and whoever curses you I will curse;
and all peoples on earth
will be blessed through you."*

²⁰*"This is what the Lord of Heaven's Armies says: People from nations and cities around the world will travel to Jerusalem. ²¹The people of one city will say to the people of another, 'Come with us to Jerusalem to ask the Lord to bless us. Let's worship the Lord of Heaven's Armies. I'm determined to go.' ²²Many peoples and powerful nations will come to Jerusalem to seek the Lord of Heaven's Armies and to ask for his blessing."*

²³*"This is what the Lord of Heaven's Armies says: In those days ten men from different nations and languages of the world will clutch at the sleeve of one Jew. And they will say, '**Please let us walk with you, for we have heard that God is with you.**'"*
