

## The Welcome Initiative, Week 2

What's this all about?

1. This week, we got to hear from some of our pastoral staff about the “why” behind this capital campaign and “the Welcome Initiative.” Share some of your initial thoughts about this project. Are you excited about it? Do you have ideas on how you might use some of these spaces more? Do you have mixed feelings? Talk it over as a group.
2. In the Video, Pastor Steve mentioned 1 Corinthians 9 and the Paul’s famous statement, “I have become all things to all people.” Take some time and read that statement in context, from 1 Corinthians 9:-23.

What does it look like for someone, or a whole church, to “make themselves a slave to all, so that we might win more?”

Can you see ways in which this initiative will aid that process?

What else can we do as a people to win more to Christ by meeting them as described in this passage?

3. We also heard Pastor Glen talk about Jesus’ speaking from the context of his hometown, Nazareth. This is just one small example of the Bible’s focus on “place” as being extremely important to our faith.

Go back and read Luke 4:16-22. Why do you think it was important for the author Luke (who has a purpose behind every detail of his story) to give us the information that this was Jesus’ hometown (v.16), and that the people knew him as “Josephs son” (v.22)?

How long have you been a part of this church? Do you know people who “grew up here?” How do you think being a part of this community has affected the growth and lives of the people you know who call this place “home?”

4. Jake talked a bit about the Temple narrative in the book of Acts. Ultimately, the trajectory of the story takes the early Christians outside the walls of the Temple and out into the world. This is pointed out especially in Acts 7, where Stephen makes the cast that the Temple (and a lot of other things) has become an idol for God’s people.

In what ways can ensure that the church building doesn't become more to us than it should be?

How can we instead leverage the improvements to this building to expand our reach into the world around us?

5. We would covet your time in prayer this week, that this “Welcome Initiative” would be honoring to God and a powerful tool in our endeavor to join in the advancement of God’s Kingdom into this world. Thank you!