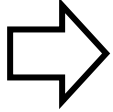


# PART 1 The Paradox of Being a Redemptive Community

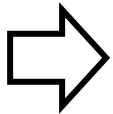
➤ To be in, but not of... to be of, but not passively within... name how you want, it's a paradox of being and it's exciting!

## “Called Out” and “Sent Into”



One side of this paradox is being “Called Out” the **ekklesia**, **ek** and **kaleo**...

- Greek political term, the citizens gathered once summoned
- Philippians 3:20, “But our citizenship is in heaven...”
- James 4:4, “Friendship with the world is in enmity with God...”
- Romans 12:2, not conformed to the pattern of the world...
- In Galatians, Paul in contrasts of spirit and flesh...
- Ephesians 2:1-10, moved from the dead world to life with Christ...



Then, we're “Sent Into” the same world from which we are called...

- African proverb, “To be called is to be sent.”
- Matthew 5, salt and light...
- 2 Corinthians 5, reconcilers and ambassadors...
- Galatians 6:14, crucified to and with the world...
- Ephesians 5:8, “...but now it he Lord you are light.”
- 1 Peter 2:11-17, both sides brought powerfully together

### ***Problems that arise when we only identify as the “Called Out”***

- Pride in our position, God's goodness becomes our hubris
- Disconnectedness from the world we're sent to serve
- ***Animosity toward the world that does not help anyone***

### ***Problems that arise when we only identify as “Sent Into”***

- Loss of community
- Loss of message
- ***Animosity toward the church that does not help anyone***

To proclaim authentic, accessible and meaningful “**good news**” in the world, we must learn not to simply survive or just balance that paradox, but to fully engage and enjoy the mission...

## Moving in the right direction...

- ⇒ Increased awareness of myself in Christ...
  - Understanding my redemption
  - Pointedly avoiding the problems of myopic focus
- ⇒ Increased awareness of myself in the world...
  - Understanding the great love of God in redemption
  - Pointedly avoiding the problems of myopic focus
- ⇒ ***Weekly Grace... exploration of these ideas above...***
  - The goal is not a balanced duality, but a unified whole
  - That “whole” might be seen as mixing colors vs. nailing planks together
  - So, how do I start to raise that awareness? ***Prayer, Study, Presence***

