

Transformational Trek Tribe™

A Manifesto



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The Five Invitations

by Ron Martoia

We all knew it would come. We all have anticipated it for over a decade. We can wait no longer--the time has come for a new way forward.

Life is loud, busy, hectic and harried. People want a sense of wholeness, wellness, peace, joy even dare I say a quiet interior space in the midst of it all.

We are all crying out for personal transformation, knowing it holds the key starting point of the larger issues we face of community development and global healing. Where can you find this life? What are the practices and rhythms that lead to this sort of peace and joy?

The church, one of the primary institutions charged with changing lives hasn't and can't. The statistics are

everywhere. As one of my first leadership mentors said, "*Mediocrity is the standard of excellence for the incompetent.*" I fear mediocrity might be the kindest word we could find.

The church, in spite of it's mandate and mission statements about enlisting new followers in the cause and catalyzing deep change in peoples lives, simply hasn't delivered on either--nor can it. While the big "C" church will no doubt

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survive, because Jesus said there will always be a group that follows him, that in no way puts any local little “c” church in a safe zone. The current expression of the church is deeply influenced by a modern world map, and unfortunately that is a map that no longer reflects our third millennium reality.

Trekking new terrain calls for new maps. The old maps were drawn for a territory with significantly different features than our landscape today.

Will you humor me with a quick history lesson to illustrate my point? The farming agrarian culture of the 17th century was a world where farming communities had a deep sense of family, social connection, common values and deep belonging. Following the 30 Years War, towns and cities become important places where commerce began to take root. By the end of the 18th century the French Revolution had demolished what was left of the farming community as the primary place of belonging and identity. The industrial revolution was well underway and the flight to urban centers and cities was in full swing. For the first time in centuries civilization underwent a major shift and these things we have come to call “societies” were born.

The notion of societies, where people freely choose to associate and belong in a club or organization was a new and much needed framework. Just a couple generations earlier everyone was connected at the old farm, but not anymore. A vacuum had been created and societies were going to fill it. This is the backdrop into which our membership models of church ministry have taken root. The church was one such “society,” one

institution that provided a place to belong, connect and identify (Alan Roxburgh has done the the heavy lifting on this topic in his recent book *Missional Map Making*.)

Like all societies there were charters of belonging; values were articulated, common reasons for coming together stated. As you know the church was no different. Doctrinal statements, in some cases lifestyle requirements, were put out to people as magnets for affiliation. If you bought our doctrine, values and flavor, sign on the dotted line, and now you are one of us.

A couple things are important to note here. The social setting was one that allowed and encouraged “belonging” as a reason for affiliation. Second, belonging to each different group was done on a basis of “buying into” certain information they deemed important. Neither of these things are bad or evil. Neither of these things were wrong. But both of these things are deeply cultural. Both are products of the move into the modern world.

When you look at how many churches ran their board meetings around Robert’s Rules of Order, and unbelievably many still do, you get a better sense of just how modern this is. While there may be efforts to attach both board and Rules of Order to biblical texts the truth is both are modern constructs. What is the point of this historical sketch?

The church as we have it today in the West is largely built around a model of belonging not a model of transforming lives. If you join a club, organization or church and they ask you to believe in this set of values, these doctrines and these rules, at that stage you belong and are now part of the group. You are now part of the

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“in” group because you have done the things that put you “in.” But is that the point of “church” affiliation and belonging based on subscribing to a doctrinal or ethical code? Obviously the answer is no! Few churches I know anywhere on the globe can state their model for changing lives nor when questioned do they have one.

What is the upshot of this whole thing? The church as currently designed is all about belonging and believing. You belong by believing certain things. I have yet to see an organization that when formed along the lines of belonging have shifted gears and become organizations of transformation (and let’s make no mistake, the church is an organization, complete with bylaws, boards, employees, budgets and buildings.) The two function differently, have different enlistment strategies, goals, patterns, rhythms, and - most importantly - outcomes.

The research is clear that the current church of belonging has not produced personal or community wide transformation that is statistically demonstrable. It has produced attendees, it has increased to a small degree biblical literacy, it has produced rule keepers, it has produced legalists, it has produced an “us versus them” mentality. But it hasn’t produced deep transformation, then again the system isn’t designed to do so.

One of the popular business writers of our time makes an observation that instantly had me doing the parallel observation for the church. Seth Godin in his 2010 book *Linchpin* says, “Studies have shown us that things learned in frightening circumstances will stick. We remember what we learn on the battlefield or when we

burn a finger on a hot tea kettle. We remember what we learn in situations where successful action avoids a threat. Schools have figured this out.”

He goes on to chronicle how our public school classrooms have learned to successfully process millions of students a year into compliance through the simple shortcut of fear-based and test-based battlefields. He proceeds to ask the question, is it any wonder then that we produce students that obey rules, master short term memory skill for testing, obey instructions and do the bare minimum to finally get out of the oppressive system with a passing grade? Fear is the driver. Fear of a D-, fear of not getting into college, fear of not fitting in.

Seth then makes this observation. “Here is what we’re teaching our kids to do:

- Fit in
- Follow instructions
- Use #2 pencils
- Take good notes
- Show up every day
- Cram for tests and don’t miss deadlines
- Have good handwriting
- Punctuate
- Buy things other kids are buying
- Don’t ask questions
- Don’t challenge authority
- Do the minimum amount required
- Get into college
- Have a good resume
- Don’t fail
- Don’t say anything that might embarrass you
- Be passably good at sports or perhaps extremely good at being the quarterback

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Participate in a large number of extracurricular activities

Be a generalist

Try not to have other kids talk about you

Once you learn a topic move on.”

His point of course in this list is to ultimately ask what kind of person is our educational institutions creating? Innovating, problem solving, creative, artistic, motivated, go the extra mile sorts of graduates? Well of course not. The system isn't bidding for that slot. The system punishes artists, creativity and innovations and rewards by-the-book bureaucrats.

Can you see how natural it is to do the parallel study about what our churches are producing?

Well in the church we use fear too. Our D- is the doctrine of hell. And it motivates our “enlistment” process and our preaching against sin. Perform, and perform darn well or you will have hell to pay, and we mean that quite literally.

No hyperbole or overstatement is necessary to say that evangelism, how we get people in the game, historically has used hell as the primary motivator.

So with fear as the backdrop, what are our churches teaching? What “products” are we producing? People that have been in the church for any period of time at all know they are supposed to...

Attend church

Carry a bible

Know that worship is singing (think about our language here)

Support the church's doctrinal and mission statements

Associate primarily with other Christians

Make a distinction between sacred and secular space

Read the bible and pray everyday

Give 10% of what they make to the church

Not ask hard questions

Not doubt or struggle

Become a Sunday school teacher or small group leader

Use their spiritual gifts to serve in the local church

Invite others to church

Present themselves to others as if everything is ok at home

Conceal faults because they are unacceptable

Believe that militant language and metaphors of *winning* the lost and going on an evangelistic *crusade* are fine for us but not Islamic Jihadists.

Is this a bit tongue in cheek? ...uh... not really. Explicitly or implicitly this is what our churches are communicating to their members and therefore to the world.

Many people don't think Jesus came to start the “church.” In fact many think he came to deconstruct religious institutions which is why he so vigorously took on the religious leaders of the day, the Pharisees. But let's just say Jesus *did* plan on starting this thing called the church, then we have to ask what was it that Jesus was all about? Ironically he was not about even one of those things mentioned above. Not one. And just as bad, not one necessarily contributes to a transformed life. A couple of them could, but none of them *necessarily*

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do. Transformation doesn't work that way. I know lots of people, like I am sure you do, that do many if not most of these things and transformation isn't in their orbit. They are just as angry, jealous, judgmental, narcissistic, nasty, narrow and unforgiving as they were 10 years ago when they started attending the church. Unfortunately the studies show that is not the exception but the rule. It is one of the reasons we have such a fast growing segment in the West of people that consider themselves spiritual but not religious. If you are like me you may be one of them. And that is why this transformational trek is exactly for you.

Some might say that when Jesus said, "come follow me" he was inviting people to belong. That may or may not be true, we would be guessing about that and trying to climb into the mind of Jesus. But what we can say for sure is that if belonging was a component, it was not the point of purpose. Transformation of life was clearly and unequivocally the point, the goal, and the reason!

In some ways this is true of all spirituality, all spiritual teachers - ancient and new - and all true religion. A new kind of life is always in view. While I think we can learn valuable and transformative things from many different teachers and traditions, it is on Jesus and five invitations he made that I am focusing this manifesto.

These five invitations are pathways to a new transformation. A transformation that happens not by attending, or believing, or giving but happens when practices for those pathways are engaged. In other words it is a transformation that starts with practice. And you already know this practically in your own life. You can study elliptical

machines and treadmills. Look at the operation manuals of each. You can listen to testimonials of people that have used them. You can watch over and over again infomercials about them. But all of that will not change your life or get you into better shape. You actually have to show up at the treadmill or elliptical, get on and do a workout if you want some results. The transformation is in the practice not in the learning about the practice or it's mechanics.

We are obsessed with information. We are googled, twittered and wikipedia-d to death. Part of the modern world is information flow, that leads to information overload, that in turn hypnotizes us into confusing information flowing at us with the life change we hope will result. But the two are not necessarily related. This trek will have some knowledge for sure, but only as a starting point to transformative practice.

Some may ask why not change the status quo belonging system of the church? I attempt to do that in some of my consulting and training of church leaders. And I think there are churches taking a stab at some changes. The problem is there is too much status in the status quo for those within in the system to want to make radical redesign moves. They can't scream the emperor has no clothes and offend the emperor - the emperor signs their checks!

I think it far more valuable and productive to hold up the invitations Jesus made and to create a new tribe around a transformational trek where we engage practices and then see how that tribe might come to "be" in new ways, create new containers, and find new ways of living and being together. "Tribe" does imply

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belonging but the belonging isn't around information, doctrine, dogma, lifestyle, rules, bible verses, obedience, denominations, politics, etc... it is around a new way of being in the world and a new sort of life. It is not by believing into, studying into or thinking into but by experiencing, living into and practicing into the five invitations.

And just a quick word, you don't have to be familiar with Christianity or a follower of Jesus to engage this manifesto or the practices. This isn't a belonging structure remember? It is a new way of living into a transformational trek. So no matter what your background, level of understanding, religious or non-religious upbringing these invitations still hold, are still offered, and still have the power to transform all of our lives if we are simply willing to show up and practice our way into them.

Invitation #1 A Bigger Mind

Jesus' first talk, teaching or sermon was quite brief. In the New Testament Gospels, originally written in Greek, Jesus said, "*metanoia* the kingdom of God is at hand." I have written extensively about this word *metanoia* that is sometimes translated "repent." And while that is a fine translation, it unfortunately conjures up images of street preachers screaming "repent!" or images of televised Billy Graham crusades. Neither of these images gets at how this word was heard then or the invitation Jesus was making. Those are both inaccurate modern interpretive overlays on *metanoia*. The word literally means to change your mind... to get to a meta-mind. Another way of saying it is "wake up!" For Jesus spirituality was about seeing. He used

metaphors of seeing, the eye, sleep, alertness, blindness, and noticing as constant touchstones in his formative practice. This is the essence of *metanoia*.

Meta, think along the lines of macro, micro and mini, is a word talking about a big overarching something. When *meta* is connected to *-noia*, the word for mind or mental, Jesus is saying, I invite you to a new mind, a bigger mind a mind above the current level of thinking you have right now. Get to a bigger mind! Jesus is inviting people to move from their hypnosis and autopilot living to an awareness that is fully awake and alive.

Now for context. What is happening that would have caused Jesus to say you need a bigger, new, larger, different mind - you need to change your mind? The nation of Israel had been waiting hundreds of years for an event to happen, and they had slowly but surely gone to sleep. They were on autopilot running through the motions. Generations were coming and going but 400 years later it is pretty easy to be dull and not too alert, don't you think? They had gotten back inside their own little headspace and had begun to do what all of us as humans do. We start telling ourselves stories. And they are usually in the form of "woe is me!" I can hear the children of Israel saying five generations later, "I know what great great great grandpa said but holy cow how long do we have to wait for this new world?"

We do the same thing, don't we? We tell ourselves stories about what people think of us, what the odds are we will get the promotion, how well will our presentation go, how will the gal at the office treat us, or how difficult will the day be shuttling kids

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all over creation for sporting events? Right? I bet right now you can pause and remember a time recently when you have been carrying on a conversation with yourself about one of these things and you were able to observe the conversation you were having and you might have even remarked to yourself how ridiculous some of your thoughts were. Have you done it? Your bigger mind was observing the little mind in action. Want to learn to live in the bigger mind?

We tell ourselves stories. About four to six hours a day we are told, we daydream and carry on conversations with ourselves. Carrying on self-conversations so intently and so interesting that we miss our exits and turn offs as we are driving. Now there is a mind literally on autopilot. I know you have had that happen.

We are creating a reality that may or may not be accurate. But you know what? We live into that **reality**. It might not be how things really are but we have already created lenses for viewing the world and those lenses now condition how we see everything. Jesus invites all of us to a bigger mind. A mind bigger than the little one that writes these “woe is me” scripts we so often live by.

That is invitation #1, living into a bigger mind, a mind where the stories my self or my ego make up don't control me any longer and I begin to observe when I am living from the little mind or the bigger mind. The little self is what spiritual teachers in all traditions have called the ego/false self/flesh/old life. The bigger self is what spiritual traditions have called the image of God in us, the mind of Christ, the Divine, Christ Consciousness, and the True

Self.

Jesus invites you to a bigger mind. And we are going to practice our way to that new awareness and awakens. This might be the single most important step in spiritual practice, waking up to and practicing awareness of our ego and the presence of a bigger mind. More sermons won't help you friend and more attendance at church services won't either. Feel free to engage those but realize they won't help you on this front. For this you need a practice. Invitation #1 is reason #1 to join the tribe!

Invitation #2 A Bigger Reality

When Jesus taught *metanoia*, get to a bigger mind, he did so because a new reality was dawning for the children of Israel. The way he framed that reality was using the language of the current political structure.

Jesus said “the kingdom of God is at hand.” This makes very little sense to us today because we live in a democracy not a kingdom. When Jesus was speaking, the kingdom of Caesar was the reality in which they lived. The idea of God's kingdom, an alternative to Caesar's kingdom, where they would no longer be oppressed by a foreign king was instantly understandable.

Let's realize the invitation still stands. The possibility of a larger reality is still being offered. But framing that reality in the language of first century politics is rather unhelpful. Jesus is essentially saying there is a bigger reality available, a bigger back drop for life, a bigger envelope of reality in which we are living whether you know it or not. This bigger reality is the reality of God's animating, pulsating, presence, something bigger than any

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current visible reality. A reality where there are different values, different goals, and different resources available.

Can you see how invitation one and two actually go hand in hand? Jesus says your sleepy little minds can't comprehend what I am about to say so wake up and get a bigger mind so you can understand there is a bigger reality. What you see is not what you get! There is more! To the children of Israel Jesus was saying "Hey Caesar isn't the final word, his kingdom is merely his, God's is the real deal and you need to tune into that!" To us Jesus says, "Wake up, change your mind, change your little thinking and start to awaken to a bigger world out there. There is an invisible new reality you are going to engage and it is full of a new kind of life."

In the modern world in which we live this type of thinking will require a pretty big shift. Typically what we can see, touch, taste, smell, and measure is what is real. Everything else is wishful thinking. But that modern world and it's map are very outdated and don't really reflect our current terrain and landscape.

We are living in a world radically different from just ten years ago. A world where the dividing line between science and Spirit is no longer hard and fast but soft and permeable. The new spiritual reality Jesus announced and invites us into is a world that science is starting to discover.

You are part of something bigger than yourself. So why not engage practices that put you in touch with that bigger reality? Why not touch it, feel it, sense it and experience it?

Jesus' invitation #2 is into this bigger reality where the life of God is all around

us, animating all that is and inviting us in to enjoy it! Again we will not be believing our way into this reality - we will be practicing and experiencing it.

No bible studies or small group meeting will help. But practices designed to bring us awareness about that larger invisible reality will! Want to be a part of something that changes the game? That is what this tribe is all about... living, experiencing, sensing, and being!

Invitation #3 A Bigger Story

There is just no getting around it... the stories that you and I construct about ourselves have us in the starring role, victim role, with a fully created plot and story line where we are the center of the universe... but it is a story that cannot come close to approximating the magnitude of the divine story you are actually a part of.

Maybe you grew up in an abusive home or were in an abusive relationship. Maybe you have experienced bankruptcy, a challenging teenager, a job downsizing or a halving of your retirement portfolio. Maybe you have experienced more than your share of bumps and bruises and feel like you have a been dealt a pretty tough hand. Maybe you feel like you are living a life on autopilot, running through the motions for 16 hours a day only to go to bed and get up for a repeat performance.

There is more, a lot more! And you can't study your way into it or memorize bible verses to experience it. When you shift to a bigger mind and become aware of a bigger reality, you find out that the story you are living in your little headspace is only part of the narrative. There is actually a whole lot more.

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Our lives are storied lives, our existence a storied existence. One of the unique things Jesus did was invite people into a different story. When Jesus approached a fishing dock one day and saw a couple guys who had been struggling to catch fish all night, he stepped in and gave them some instructions about how to catch some... right there, right then. The instructions were counterintuitive, but they proved to be effective.

Before we go on I want you to notice how Jesus entered into the middle of their personal narratives and disrupted them. This fisherman, Simon, with apparently some others, were no doubt third or fifth or ninth generation fishermen. There is some family history no doubt behind their fishing. They grew up with their dad and grandpa watching the tides, the moon phase, the weather and all the other indicators fisherman know will guide success. They knew when to fish, when to mend nets, and how to go to the fish market to make deals. Fishing was their life, how they made sense of themselves and it was the narrative story in their heads about which they carried on their own internal conversations. They had these internal conversations just like you and I have narrative stories about our lives we talk to ourselves about all day long.

Jesus intrudes on and interrupts that narrative. He tells them to do something counter to their self-talk, a story they are just sure is true... "Cast your nets over there into the deep," Jesus says. They had been fishing all night. They knew where to throw their nets. They were fishermen, they had a narrative, they knew this fisherman life, they knew this world. But Jesus intersects their narrative and brings them a

large catch of fish. But that really isn't the point of the story.

Jesus wants to change their narrative. He wants to alter what they are saying to themselves about themselves. He wants them to story their lives in a new way. Jesus says to them "You have been fishing for fish... I want you to fish for men."

The point of the story *isn't* that Jesus took a couple fishermen and turned them into an enlistment force for his new religion. Jesus intercepted their narrative and expanded it into a bigger story. Jesus invited them to consider a larger bigger narrative and how that changed the very purpose of their existence. Jesus reframed their lives. Fishing was fine but human relationship and impact was even bigger and more important. I think this is why Jesus used the fishing metaphor for them. The fishing world was the language they used between each other and within their own heads. Expanding that language to a bigger story, a bigger narrative was what Jesus was doing.

He does the same for you and me. Jesus invites you and I into a bigger mind and bigger reality because he wants to invite us into a bigger story, a deeper story a more fulfilling and healing story.

Invitation #3 is into a bigger story, a story unleashed from the confines of our little headspace self-talk and egoic horizon and instead engaging in the grand epic of God. Invitation #3 an important reason to join the trek.

Invitation #4 A Bigger Life

If we could search for a brief and memorable summary of why Jesus thought he was here, toward the top of the list is his statement "I have come that you might

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have an over the top abundant and full life.” When you look at what he did, with consistency you find he went around spreading wholeness, abundance, healing, life. Whether he was feeding people, healing a woman who had spent her life savings looking for a cure, giving sight to blind people both literally and figuratively, Jesus was all about brokering a shalom that healed people and brought wholeness to their fractured and splintered lives.

We all travel the journey of life and pick up debris along the way. We have pain, failings, struggles and ruptures. The fabric of life is tattered and in places even torn. Jesus takes those pieces and brings a wholeness that restores us to the bigger life we were destined and created for. He invites us into a current of fresh water that is always present and replenishing. This is a life we all are made to crave and enjoy, but often we are not sure where to find it. Consumerism is a cheap substitute. Keeping up with the Joneses a vague attempt. Acquisition of more stuff a futile effort. Jesus offers us *perissos zoe* (full abundant life) and there is a way to rhythm our lives so we can experience full wholeness.

There is invitation #4 - a bigger life, experiencing the very reason Jesus says he came.

Invitation #5 A Bigger Love

Jesus invites you and I into a love that brings a sense of total acceptance, deep connection to God, inclusion, openness and freedom. It seems like the previous four invitations find culmination here, doesn't it? A bigger mind, set free from the ego and able to see a larger reality than the one we

personally construct, that engages a bigger more healing and far reaching narrative so I can experience his divine life. This should lead us to experiencing and offering to each other and the world a beyond-human quality of love.

My friends Dave Kinnaman and Gabe Lyons wrote a book a couple years ago called *Unchristian*. The top two things the church is known for among 16-29 year olds? Being judgmental and anti-gay. Mmmm... We say that God is love, because the bible says God is love. Jesus says there are only two things we have to do, everything is summed up right here, Love God and Love Others. The New Testament says they will know we are followers of Christ by our... that is right – love. But the two things the next generation has at the top of their list for how we are known... are both antitheses of love. Judgment, the very essence of splitting off, distancing and marginalizing, couldn't be more opposite. Anti-gay is merely the same judgment applied to one particular group.

Our inability to fully experience and then offer love is a reflection on our views of God and the Bible. I have surveyed hundreds and hundreds of conference participants over the last five years. I asked a simple question and for a show of hands after I gave them the two options. Option #1: How many of you reflexively and without thought see God as someone who is out to help you, has your best interests in mind, and totally without reservation and no strings attached loves you? Option #2: How many of you reflexively and instantly see God as someone who's primarily making sure we play by the rules, obey the

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book, and faithfully do the work we have been given to do?

Do you know what I found out? When surveying largely church staff members and some key volunteers leaders, well over 85% of all the people surveyed raised their hand for number two. Their reflexive gut level internal view of God is that he is watching us to make sure we play by the rules of the game. No wonder 16-29 year olds have the perception they have. We have fueled it by our view of God.

The invitation Jesus makes is to a love of God and a love of others as if they were “self.” When we strip away our ethnicity, geography, education, upbringing, station in life and the host of things we often identify as the real me, what we find out is there is a core “me” that is just like the core “you.”

You and I are the same, we are both made in the image of God. Our fundamental sameness far outweighs the surface differences. You can’t study your way, think your way, sermonize or bible study your way into experiencing the oneness we have with each other. But you can practice your way in though and this tribe is going to do just that.

Every great spiritual tradition and text has open ended, lavish, flagrant love as the goal. If we aren’t being more inclusive and less judgmental we have not love. If we aren’t able to be less gossipy and jealous and more forgiving and gentle we have not love. If we can’t relax and leave God’s work to God and quit thinking we need to help determine who is in and who is out, we have not love.

Invitation #5 is to a bigger, broader, richer, deeper love that is the most maturing force in the universe. The great mystics, and

you will get exposed to many if you join the tribe, say there are three things that bring dramatic personal transformation. The first one is deep love. (If you are wondering about the other two, you have clear proof that you need to join the tribe.) The sense that we are unconditionally loved by the Architect, Designer, Creator of the entire universe is where it all begins. We need to experience this love, grant this love, spread this love.

Those are the five invitations. Accepting these, living into these, practicing and rhythm-ing our lives around these is what the new transformational trek is all about. Debates about doctrine and religions are dead, and unhelpful if transformation is what we seek. We are interested in helping people experience these, and so this leads us to a sixth invitation we are making to you.

Join this transformational trek tribe! We are excited to host a very unique space where practices, conversation, videos, reading books together each month, webcasts and a host of other resources will be provided with one express purpose... to help you experience transformation. Willing to try something new? Willing to engage an exciting new way forward? Ready to get exposed to new way to create deep shifts in the way you see? Longing to live more fully into the five invitations? If you can answer yes to any of these questions then the ttTribe is something that will help you make those moves and just as importantly connect you to other people all over the world doing the same things you will be doing!

So what’s the plan?

Engage the practices each week. Each week we will post some practices that in some way relate to one of the five invitations. My hope is that we could start a

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small spiritual formation movement based on practices that would lead to new ways of being, communicating and connecting.

The next step is to join the Transformational Trek Tribe. For a small monthly fee you can have password access to a location where all the other ttTribe members connect and experience e-learning together. In this ttTribe area there are a growing set of resources for each of the five invitations: pdf articles and podcasts for download, there are videos, links, and most of all practices. There are book discussions for tribe members on monthly reads we do together. There you have the full capability for conversation with other tribe members about their transformative practice. There will be periodic live conferencing, coaching and conversation with me, Ron Martoia, the founder of <http://www.velocityculture.com> and the ttTribe. In addition to the resources related to the five invitations there will be leadership and personal development resources as well. While the tribe area started with a stock of material, it will be added to every single month.

Longer term there will very possibly be another way to connect as a tribe as well. As the tribe grows and more and more people in your local area get involved (which is partly up to your influencing others to join the ttTribe), local revolutionary ttTribe leaders will host periodic in real life meetings to connect those that are doing the weekly practices. We already have interest for local tribe leaders in 4 countries and multiple states in the United States. And who knows, maybe you are one too!

So what are the next steps?

Join – Commit to spiritual practice and

join the tribe here (<http://www.velocityculture.com/amember/signup.php>).

Hurry – As a launch special we are offering the first 75 people to register a monthly subscription fee of \$19.99. This will stay at that level indefinitely even if the joining price for later members is higher. The next 200 members will get a good deal as well at \$24.99 per month, before we will close subscription to observe that level of interaction and how much larger we want it to grow. If we do open it back up it will be at a higher price than both those mentioned. We also have special group pricing. We have had quite a response from churches saying, "hey I love the tribe thing but want some others to take the journey with me." Some want other staff in the mix some want some elders, a number of churches I know are considering using the ttTribe monthly material AS their small group curriculum. So if you want to take others on this journey take a look at the group options at 5 people for \$50, 12 for \$100 or 30 for \$200.

Don't wait – join now... (<http://www.velocityculture.com/amember/signup.php>).

Stay Updated – Follow my twitter feed at... <http://twitter.com/ttTribe> to stay up to date.

If you are still deciding but want to remain updated about future ttTribe offerings, subscribe with your email address (<http://www.velocityculture.com/ttTribe.html>).

Grow the tribe – pass the manifesto you just read to anyone on your mailing list that you think would be interested in this journey... or print it out and give it to them. There has to be at least a dozen you can think of. Their religious or lack of religious affiliation does not matter at all. This tribe will be composed of all sorts of people, many considering themselves spiritual but

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A MANIFESTO

Get ready for **transformation,**
growth and development like you have
never experienced it before!

Welcome to the new transformational
trek!