

Transformational Trek Tribe™

A Manifesto



The Five Invitations: the Short Take

the full manifesto can be [found here](#)

by Ron Martoia

The current church system is modern, built on belonging and has a demonstrated track record complete with statistics that it is not designed to bring about life change.

We need a new way. The transformational trek tribe engaging the five invitations of Jesus is one way forward.

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.

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. 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."

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.

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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.

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, a reality he called the kingdom of God.

Jesus’ invitation #2 is into this bigger envelope of existence where the life of God is all around us, animating all that is and inviting us in to enjoy it!

No bible studies or small group meeting will help us. 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.

Our lives are storied lives, our existence a storied existence. One of the unique things Jesus did was invite people into a different story. 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 #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 have an over the top abundant and full life.”

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. 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

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connection to God, inclusion, openness and freedom. It seems like the previous four invitations find culmination here.

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.

Invitation #5 is to a bigger, broader, richer, deeper love that is the most maturing force in the universe. Receive His 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.

So what's the plan?

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: pdf articles and 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.

So what are the next steps?

Join - 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.

Special Group Pricing - 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.

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

Welcome to the new transformational trek!