April 15, 2018 Faithful Presence Unfolded

James Hunter—Podcast

"Defense against, relevance to, purity from are three responses to modernity. We are in a postmodern moment. What unites us is far greater in this moment, than what divides us. "

"If we understand the power to define reality to name things is the power to give life or death. And in a world where instrumental power is the dominant public logic, that naming will create a world that does not bend toward justice, toward freedom, toward life, toward vitality, toward health, it will bend in the opposite directions. And part of the problem is because Christians have not understood this, they are participating in the very thing that will destroy them. That is what they are doing right now. That is the tragedy. In the name of resisting, what they rightly see as the degradation of culture in certain respects, they are participating in bringing that about. To come to understand the nature of our moment is to recognize the power of the gospel as a vision of incarnational love and a world in which love is increasingly absent. To understand how that plays out in every sphere of our lives (beginning in the church)."

Philip Rieff— "We need to be creating a refuge of human flourishing for the refugees of our cultureless society."

How to Change the World

"Consciousness, experience, identity, physical presence, and the landscape around us, in short are disembodied through these technologies"

The incarnation replies to the challenges of dissolution and difference

God's Faithful Presence:

- —He pursues us
- —He identifies with us
- —He offers us life in himself
- —His offer is through sacrificial love

God does not regard us as either "danger" or "darkness" (we neither threaten nor diminish him)

For us: 1. we are present to one another

- 2. we are faithful to our tasks
- 3. we do so within our spheres of influence