

Dedication

In Honor of Rob Harvey



Rob Harvey was one of the best friends I've ever had. He was on staff with me at Blazing Trees for several years until our Heavenly Father called him home to heaven in March 2020.

Rob was kind, wise, and generous. He prioritized his marriage and children over ministry, and he always carved out special time for them. Rob was a sabbath man: going off the ministry grid on Friday evenings and starting his week on Sundays. He understood the key to following Jesus Christ is resting in his presence.

It's always a great challenge to put into words what someone is like who walks in the Holy Spirit. There's a

reason God says his ways are not our ways and his thoughts are beyond our own. It's why he says to live by faith and not by sight, to keep in step with the Spirit.

When Rob and I met, we connected around this shared passion of abiding in Jesus. Our friendship was defined by this common strategy of rest and prayer. We journeyed together along Jesus' Immanuel Road, discussing the ways and wisdom of Jesus' heavenly kingdom, what progress the Church is making globally, what's missing in missions that no one is talking about, and how we could collaborate, innovating and developing simple discipling resources that just about anyone can understand, use, train others, and adapt for their unique mission fields and needs.

I still believe Rob may have been an angel just checking in on all of us from time to time. I know he loved Jesus more than anyone or anything. I know he worshipped in Spirit and Truth. He was trustworthy, loyal, merciful, humble, forgiving, and courageous.

Abba Father used Rob to change my life forever. God brought him to me at just the right time when I had been rejected by many of my ministry friends. I became a black sheep in my own ministry team for exchanging apostolic crusading for restful abiding.

Rob listened to my story, affirmed me, blessed me, and adopted me as his younger Harvey brother. We have been close friends and intentional companions ever since, all the way to his ascension.

What I remember the most about Rob is that he was a Safe Place for me. It's truly a rare gift in life to find

someone who will let you be yourself. They don't want anything from you, they don't ask anything of you, and they don't expect anything from you; they just want your friendship and cherish your companionship.

Rob was one of those rare treasures in life where you are totally free to be your pure self. We laughed together, and we cried together; we struggled together, and we dreamed together. I never had to worry about what Rob thought about me, I never had to tread carefully with how I said what I wanted to say. We were the closest and most trusted of friends, and I was blessed, strengthened, and inspired every single time we talked or gathered. I really love Rob, and I have a deep, abiding anticipation for that glorious day when we will be reunited forever in Zion City.

So much of who I am today as well as our Blazing Trees vision, mission, values, and culture have been shaped, forged, refined, and nurtured by all those times Rob & I spent time hanging out together with the Holy Spirit and discussing the kingdom of heaven.

I pray every day that God will use me in the lives of the leaders around me the same way he used Rob in mine.

James Harvey
Blazing Trees CEO/Founder
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