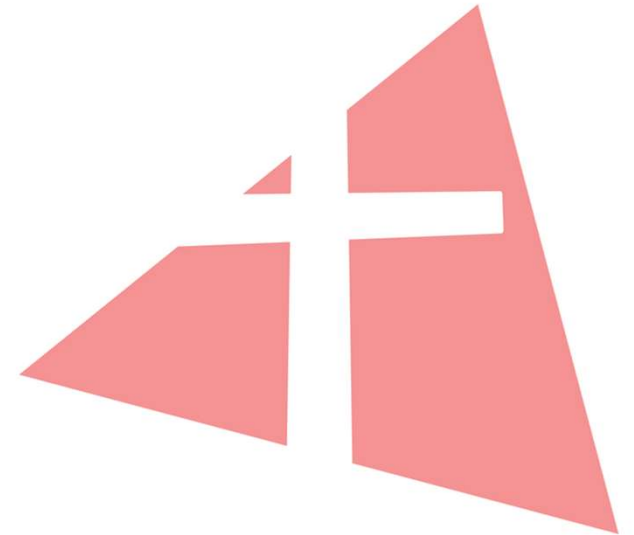


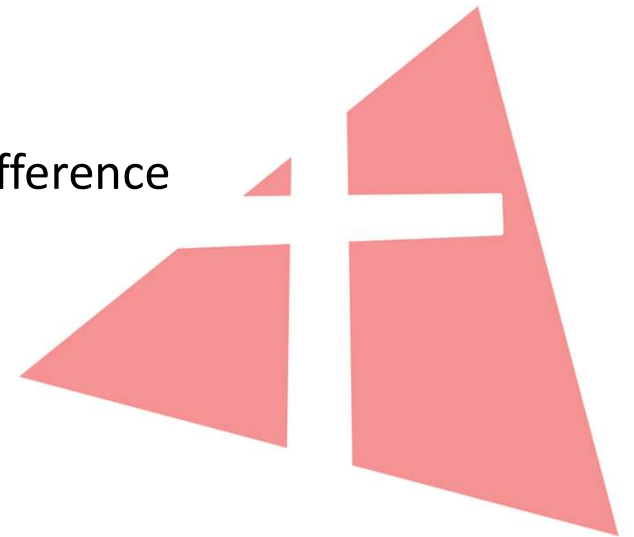
ALETHEIA'S IDENTITY: WHY WE EXIST

January 05th 2020



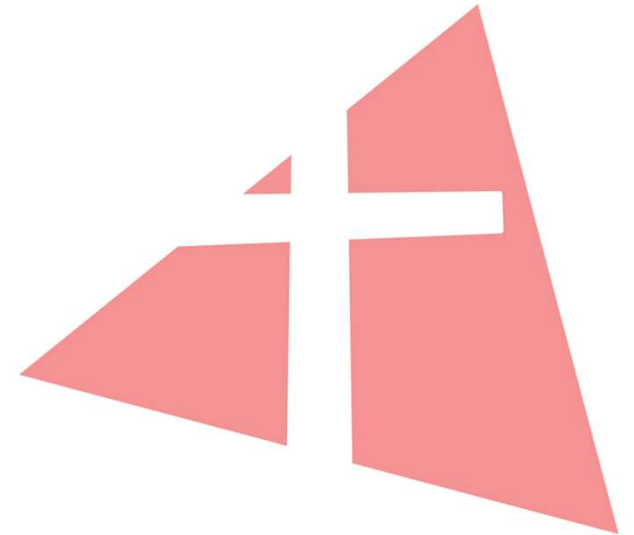
HOW ALETHEIA WAS BIRTHED

- **God called us to start a church in Munich**
- **God called us to not become „yet another German church“**
 - One more church like many others won't make much of a difference



HOW ALETHEIA WAS BIRTHED

- What kind of church do you want us to become?



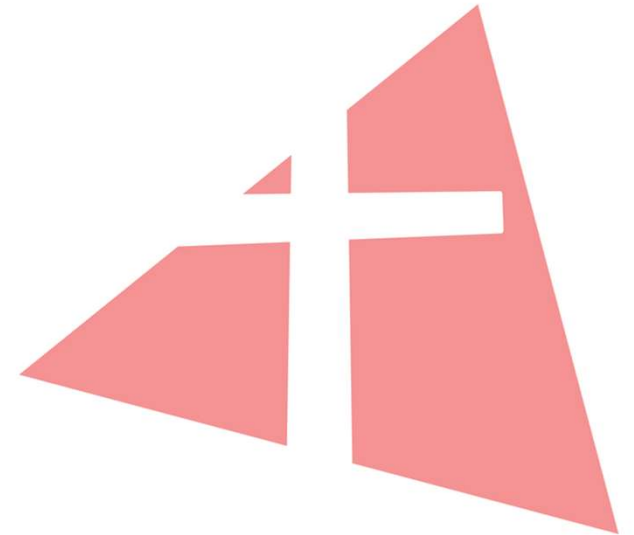
HOW ALETHEIA WAS BIRTHED

- When growing up, I had a totally wrong understanding of Jesus, the church and Christianity
- God called us to bring back to Germany what we experienced in Shanghai



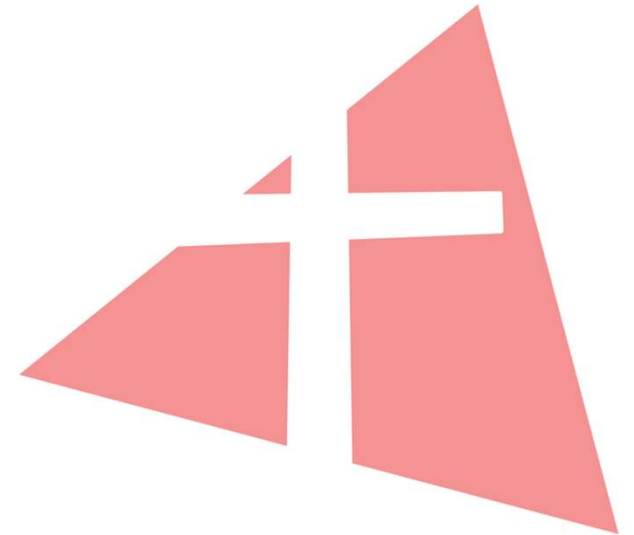
CHURCH IDENTITY

- **If we try to become everything for everyone, we will end up being nothing for anyone**
- **Trying to accommodate everyone is**
 - Not fair
 - Not efficient
 - Confusing to everybody



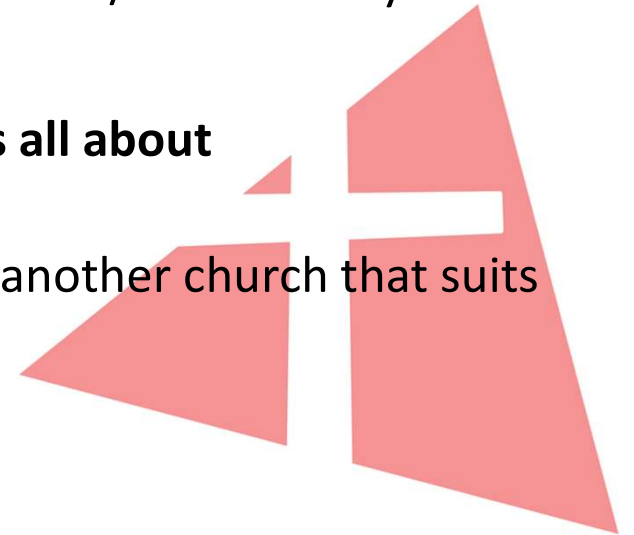
6 QUESTIONS

- Why do we exist?
- How do we behave?
- What do we do?
- How do we succeed?
- What is most important right now?
- Who must do what?



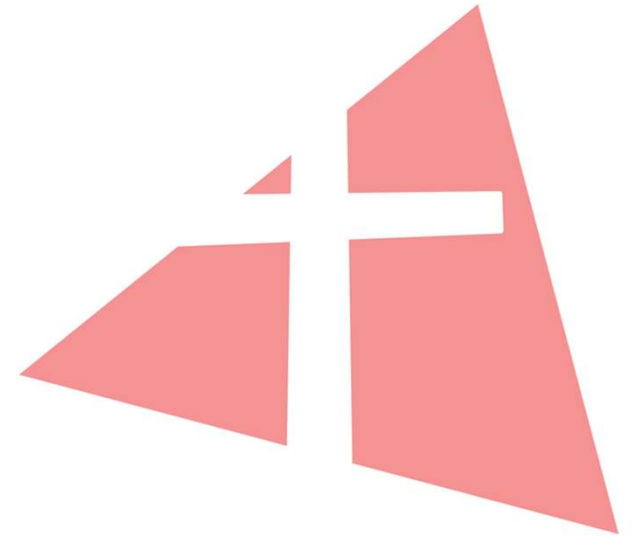
THE RESULT

- **If every member of Aletheia aligns him-/herself around this identity, we will be a united church**
 - Each member and each ministry contributes to this identity in his/her own way
 - Nobody does things outside our identity
- **New members will easily and quickly know what this church is all about**
 - If they like it, they'll join and know what they will get
 - If they don't like it, they will immediately know and look for another church that suits them better



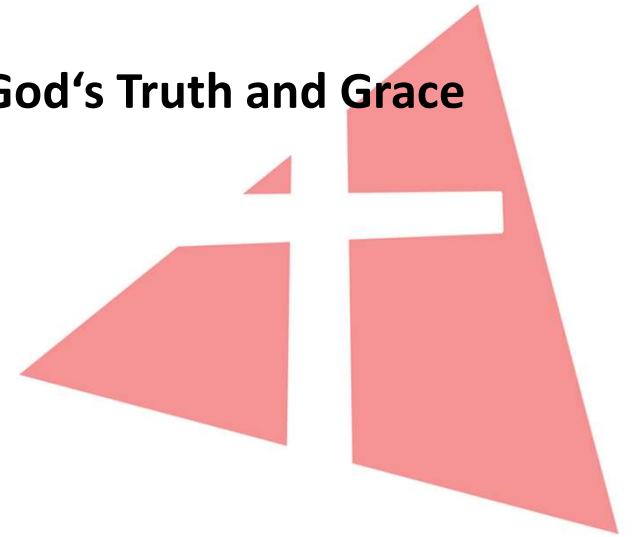
TWO MORE IMPORTANT REMARKS

- **Our identity doesn't make us a „better church than others“**
- **We have to be willing to let people go**



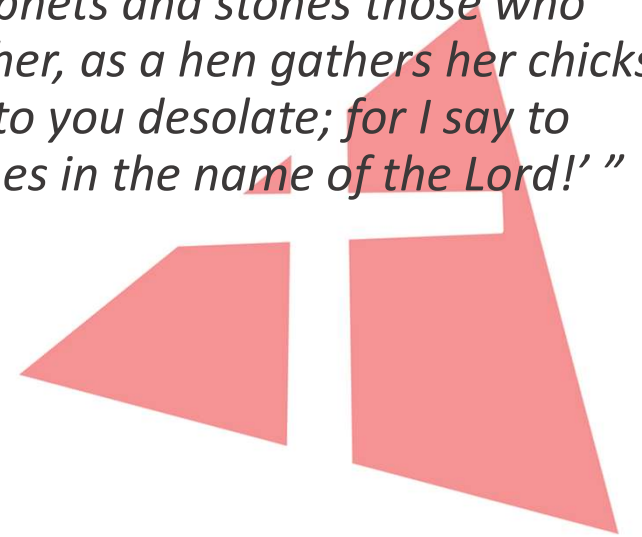
WHY DO WE EXIST?

- We believe everybody deserves many chances to respond to God's Truth and Grace



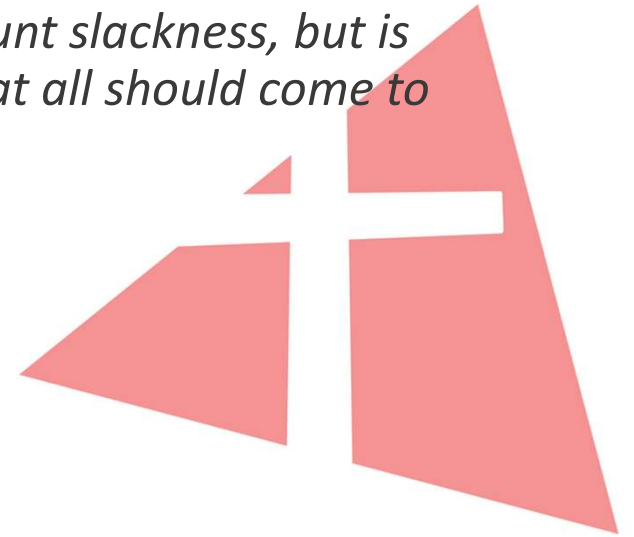
MANY CHANCES: JESUS IS PATIENT

Matt 23:37-39 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing! See! Your house is left to you desolate; for I say to you, you shall see Me no more till you say, 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!' "



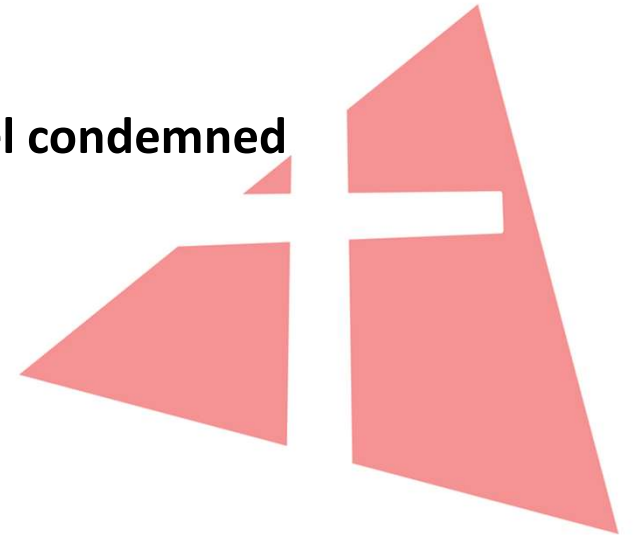
MANY CHANCES: JESUS IS PATIENT

2Pet 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.



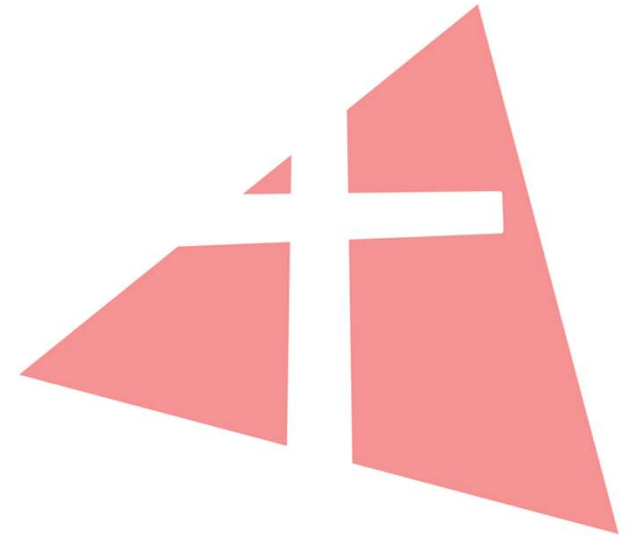
TRUTH & GRACE

- If people attending don't hear the truth, we are not a church
- If people attending don't hear about God's grace, they will feel condemned



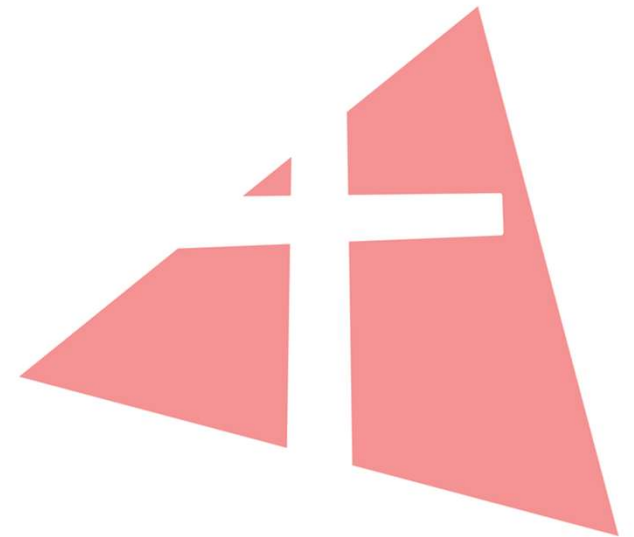
EVERYONE

- We want to give everybody a chance to hear



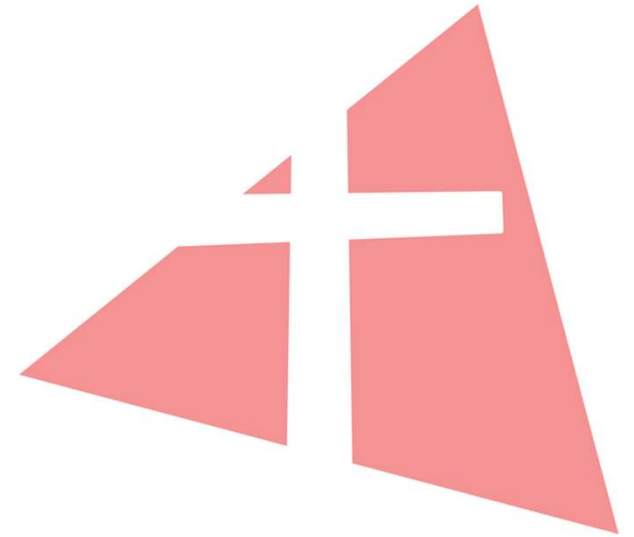
RESPONSES

- **How people respond is their own choice**
- **We do our part**
 - We invite
 - We teach
- **We will always accept a „No, thank you“.**



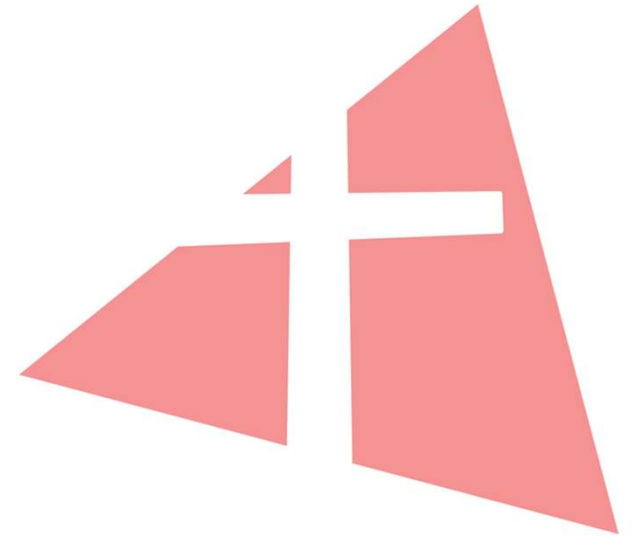
IS IT JUST ABOUT OUTREACH?

- Inreach is just as important as outreach



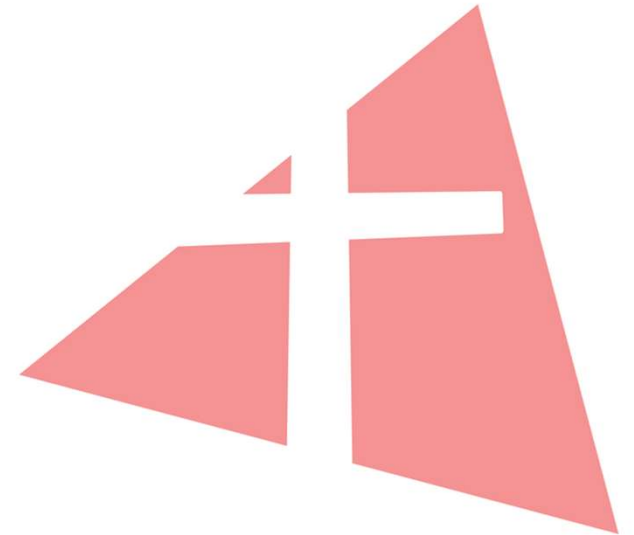
NEXT WEEK: OUR VALUES

- Love for the Father
- Truth
- Relationships & Family



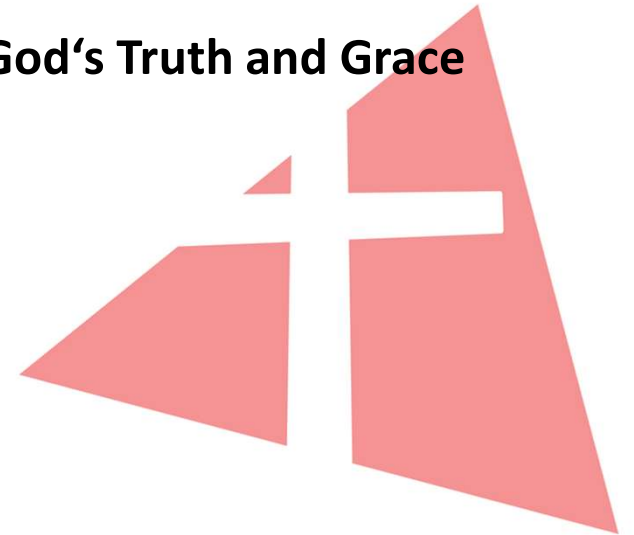
AT THE END OF OUR SERIES

- **Workshop**
 - How we apply our identity in real life situations



WHY DO WE EXIST?

- **We believe everybody deserves many changes to respond to God's Truth and Grace**
 - Everything else will flow out of this „reason for existence“



COMMUNION

