

Start With

WHY

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Week 2 – Why Do We Need Each Other?

Introduction:

Why We Need Each Other: Three New Testament Pictures...

1. _____ (a single unit made of many diverse parts)

Romans 12:4-5
1 Corinthians 12:12; 17-22

The fact of our interdependence drives an attitude of *humility*.

2. _____ (a people in covenant relationship with God)

Revelation 19:6-7

Christ's purchase price of His own life defines our sense of *value*.

3. _____ (a family of God's children and heirs of His promises)

Galatians 4:4-5
Romans 8:15

Our permanent adoption secures our sense of *belonging*.

The Big Idea:

Ultimately, it is the role of the Church to nurture deep, lasting community in a relationally disconnected world. Why do we need each other? To teach us *humility*, to define our *value*, and to secure our sense of *belonging*. By definition, Body, Bride and Brotherhood are all relational words...because our faith is a relational faith!

QUESTIONS FOR LIFE GROUPS AND PERSONAL REFLECTION:

Personal Life:

1. The Bible shows us that we are all wired for community as humans created in God's image. At the same time, different personalities, temperaments and felt needs might play a role in how individuals actually engage in community. How do you think your own particular personality, temperament, circumstances, etc. plays into your need for connection?

Ponderings:

2. In the weekend message, three metaphors were discussed as to WHY we need community. Our interdependence as the Body teaches us humility. Our significance as the Bride assigns our value/worth. Our unity as the Brotherhood gives us our sense of belonging.
 - Which of those three Biblical metaphors is the most powerful or helpful for you personally and why?
 - With regard to the "Body" metaphor, what are some of the most common "injuries" that cripple the Church from functioning as powerfully as She could in the world today? Discuss...
 - With regard to the "Bride" metaphor, how does Christ's purchase of us with His own blood give credence to our personal worth and the worth of others? How should this metaphor have bearing on the way we live with one another?
 - The "Brotherhood" metaphor highlights the permanent nature of our adoption of God's Children and our status as co-heirs with Christ. What does it actually mean to be a co-heir with Jesus? Why is this so critical to our sense of belonging with God and each other?
3. What other New Testament metaphors are you aware of that describe Christ's Church and speak meaning into the question of WHY we need each other? Discuss...

Promptings:

4. The question of origin (Where did I come from), the question of purpose (Why am I here?) and the question of destiny (Where am I going) are questions everyone is needing answers for. In what specific way(s) or in what specific relationship(s) can YOU become a conduit of helping people in your life discover the answers to these ultimate questions? Are you willing to step out in faith this week and BE that Body, Bride and Brother/Sister in the way that you live and invest in someone?