



• Pastor Derrick Shields “One Anothering: Created For One Another” 5/1/2022

Key Verses:

- Romans 12:1-5

Key Thoughts:

- One of the greatest things that we have as humans is one another. Some people think that we don't need church or that our faith is between just us and God.
- The Creator of our community calls us to imitate Jesus in sacrificial love toward one another so that we can share that Love with people outside of our community.
- God himself is the creator of our community. So many of us show up to churches or communities of believers and don't know why – it's because God has drawn you there as part of the creation of that community.

New Testament Images used to describe the Church:

1. **Family** – (Matthew 12:48, Galatians 4:4-6)
 - The bible describes closeness of Christian people in terms that are usually saved for family – brothers and sisters, “adopted to sonship”.
 - In the time that NT writers were alive, the relationship held by siblings was the closest and most enduring relationships. How we are to treat one another is reflective of a relationship between brothers and sisters – cooperate, don't compete, forgive.
 2. **Building** – (1 Peter 2:4-5, Ephesians 2:21-22)
 - This is not about a structure dedicated to worship.
 - First century believers understood that the gathering of Christ followers WAS the church – Peter calls each believer a “living stone”.
 3. **Body** – (1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 17-18, 21-23, 27)
 - A body is single entity composed of many distinct parts.
 - When we're part of a body, when part of it separates, there is pain.
 - “Each one of you” – this leaves out no one, no matter how insignificant you may feel, God has given you something that God will use to bless the whole.
- The focus of God's redemptive action is not on ME living out MY faith, but US living out OUR faith. No one of us can achieve God's vision alone – it's one for an us, not a me.

Discussion Questions:

1. Why do we need one another as believers?
2. Who is someone that has made an impact on your spiritual life? Who have you impacted?



3. Which of the New Testament images used to describe the church resonates most with you?