

LIVE THE GOSPEL

The Gospel is not just a message to be believed, but a power to be experienced (Rom 1:16).

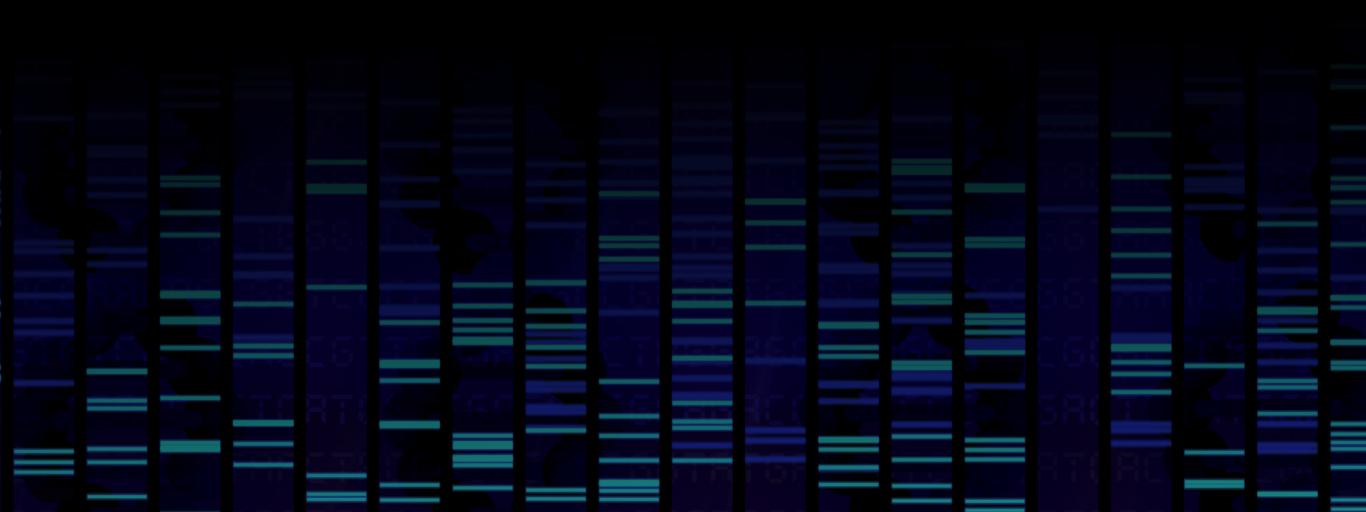


JOHN 17:23

"I pray... that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me."

CULTURAL MESSAGE OF INDIVIDUALISM

Individualism is a fundamentally worldly way of understanding what it means to be human.



PAULTRIPP

"We weren't created to be independent, autonomous, or self-sufficient. We were made to live in a humble, worshipful, and loving dependency upon God and in a loving and humble interdependency with others. Our lives were designed to be community projects.

PAULTRIPP

Yet, the foolishness of sin tells us that we have all that we need within ourselves. So we settle for relationships that never go beneath the casual. We defend ourselves when the people around us point out a weakness or a wrong. We hold our struggles within, not taking advantage of the resources God has given us."

WHERE SIN REIGNS, COMMUNITY STRUGGLES. WE MUST FIGHT FOR UNITY!!



HOW DOES JESUS MODEL LOVE FOR US TO FOLLOW?

- 1. Jesus modelled love through serving
- 2. Jesus shows His love to us by leveraging His abilities for our needs
- 3. Jesus shows His love for us by sharing in our pain and our sorrow
- 4. Jesus shows His love to us by living among us
- 5. Jesus bridged the gap to get to them

WHAT DOES ALL OF THIS MEAN?

It means that community requires Christ. It is only as His grace enables me that I can exit my claustrophobic kingdom of one, become excited about the expansive work of His Kingdom, and live in the kind of productive relationships with others that I was created for, while I encourage others to do the same.