

## Core Values: Community

### “You Can’t Do Life Alone”

Sunday, January 7, 2018

What *Community* may look like: we lay down our rights and we pick up transparency like we have never known. We learn to trust again. We learn to laugh again. We are reminded that there can be beauty, even in the midst of pain. We are closer to understanding our purpose in life. We don't take ourselves too seriously. We become like Jesus.

#### **Philippians 2:1-11 (ESV)**

“So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

-It's ALL got to come out of HUMILITY.

### **Psalm 133:1 (NIV)**

“How good and pleasant it is when God’s people live together in unity!”

-It’s a sad day when the worst persecution a believer in America might face today comes from another “Christian.”

### **Romans 12:4-18 (NLT)**

“Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ’s body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other. In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly. Don’t just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other. Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically. Rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble, and keep on praying. When God’s people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you. Don’t curse them; pray that God will bless them. Be happy with those who are happy, and weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with each other. Don’t be too proud to enjoy the company of ordinary people. And don’t think you know it all! Never pay back evil with more evil. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honorable. Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone.”

-To have community we need to have unity and to have unity we need to understand that the “body” or the church has many parts and these parts do not all have the SAME function.”

### **Hebrews 10:24-25 (ESV)**

“And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.”

### **Galatians 6:2 (ESV)**

“Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.”

-Yes, “misery loves company” but isolation causes us to bear too much on our own.

-Song “Lean on Me”

“Lean on me, when you're not strong  
And I'll be your friend  
I'll help you carry on  
For it won't be long  
'Til I'm gonna need  
Somebody to lean on

Please swallow your pride  
If I have things you need to borrow  
For no one can fill those of your needs  
That you won't let show

You just call on me brother, when you need a hand  
We all need somebody to lean on  
I just might have a problem that you'll understand  
We all need somebody to lean on”

## 1 Thessalonians 5:14 (NIV)

“And we urge you, brothers and sisters, *warn* those who are idle and disruptive, encourage the disheartened, help the weak, be patient with everyone.”

-We are to “*admonish*” (instruct, advise, warn) one another in the community of faith.

-“People don’t care how much you know until they know how much you care.”

-NONE of this will work without a commitment to humility and honesty. None of it. (Philippians 2:1-11)

-We must find community (communion) in Christ.—> We must then find community in His bride, the Church.—> This is what should then lead us to the community of people all around us.

-Most transformation happens over time and through relationship (small groups-COMMUNITY)