

Created for Community
How We Help Each Other Grow
Part Three A
November 5th, 2017

We're learning in this series that we're better together. A wise people will acknowledge that we need each other. God's plan for our lives includes others. Without a healthy network of growing relationships our destinies will be stunted. Jesus' first step on His mission was to surround Himself in community with 12 men.

The big idea of the today's message is that your individual spiritual growth/health hinges on your ability to connect with other people.

An organ or a limb separated from your body withers and dies – it is the same spiritually.

Romans 12:4-5 TEV

We have many parts in the one body, and all these parts have different functions. ⁵ In the same way, though we are many, we are one body in union with Christ, and we are all joined to each other as different parts of one body.

Colossians 2:19 NLT

...connected to Christ, the head of the body. For he holds the whole body together with its joints and ligaments, and it grows as God nourishes it.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 NLT

...encourage each other and build each other up...

2 Ways You Can Help People Grow

1. By Affirming Each Other's Worth.

a) With acceptance

Romans 15:7 NIV

Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.

Action Step:

Who do you have a hard time accepting?

Appreciate the differences

b) With attention

You can accept somebody and still ignore them.

Galatians 6:10 NCV

Give special attention to those who are in the family of believers.

Why? Whatever you pay attention to will grow – lawn, marriage, kids, etc

The greatest way to show love is not gifts – but attention

Action Step:

Making a phone call to someone who needs attention

c) With affection

UCLA study:

Discovered that to be a healthy, fulfilled, satisfied adult you need 8-10 meaningful touches a day.

Hand shakes, hugs, pat on the back, a little squeeze

You were made for being touched.

You need touches in your life in order to be healthy.

Action Step:

Practice being in the moment, make eye contact, touch physically and affirm one person today

d) With appreciation

Every time you appreciate something – you raise it's value.

1 Thessalonians 5:12 NCV

Brothers and sisters... appreciate those who work hard among you, who lead you in the Lord and teach you.

Action Step:

Thank someone who helped you today at CLC.

CLC Kids worker?

Parking Lot attendant?

Host?

Lights, sound, or camera operator?

2. By praying for each other's growth.**Colossians 4:12**

Epaphras, who is one of you and a servant of Christ Jesus, sends greetings. He is always wrestling in prayer for you, that you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature and fully assured.

Most people don't know what to pray for, so here are some great scriptures:

Ephesians 3:18-19 LB

I pray...you'll be able to feel and understand, how long, wide, deep, and high Christ's love really is; and to experience this love for yourselves...

Hebrews 13:21

May God...equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him.

Ephesians 1:17

I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.

2 Thessalonians 3:5

May the Lord direct your hearts into God's love and Christ's perseverance.

Ephesians 3:16

I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being."