

Created for Community - Part 4

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Calgary Life Church

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It's been often said that talent breaks records, but teams win championships.

One of the very first things that God ever said was "It's not good for man to be alone." We are created for community and life giving relationships. God doesn't want us to go through life by ourselves.

God also put us on earth to make a difference (Eph 2:10). He wants us to make a contribution with our lives. He wants us to give something back. When we use our talents, abilities, background, experience, time, and energy to help somebody else, the Bible calls that ministry! And contrary to popular opinion, everybody is a minister.

God's desire is for every one of us to be serving on TEAM.

Phil 2:2 Living Bible

Then make me truly happy by loving each other and agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, working together with one heart and mind and purpose.

What it takes to serve as a TEAM

1 Corinthians 3:8 NLT

The one who plants and the one who waters work as a team with the same purpose.

A. Trust

My question is how can you be trustworthy?

Proverbs 20:6 NCV

Many people claim to be loyal, but it is hard to find a trustworthy person.

If you want people to learn to trust you – you must do three things

1. Being consistent

Luke 16:10 NIV

Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much

2. Being confidential

Proverbs 11:13 TEV

No one who gossips can be trusted with a secret, but you can put confidence in someone who is trustworthy.

3. Being close

Proverbs 17:17 Message

Friends love through all kinds of weather, and families stick together in all kinds of trouble.

B. Empathy

1 Peter 3:8 NLT

Finally, all of you should be of one mind. Sympathize with each other. Love each other as brothers and sisters. Be tenderhearted, and keep a humble attitude.

Empathy Meets Two Fundamental Needs:

The need to be understood

The need to have your feelings validated

The Bible gives us three ways...

1. Slow down

James 1:19 NKJV

So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath

2. Ask questions

Proverbs 20:5 AMP

Counsel in the heart of man is like water in a deep well, but a man of understanding draws it out.

3. Show emotions

Romans 12:15 NKJV

Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.

C. Accommodate

2 Timothy 2:22 CEV

Be faithful, loving, and easy to get along with.

What do we accommodate?

1. Each other's needs

Romans 15:2 Message

Each one of us needs to look after the good of the people around us, asking ourselves, 'How can I help?'

2. Each other's ideas

Proverbs 18:15 LB

The intelligent man is always open to new ideas. In fact, he looks for them.

3. Each other's personalities

Romans 12:6 NIV

We have different gifts, according to the grace given us.

4. Each other's faults

Ephesians 4:2 NIV

Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

Here's the fourth ingredient of teamwork

And this one's the most important of all

Because if all you have is trust, empathy and accommodation

You don't have a team – you've got a social club

D. Mission

Philippians 2:2 NAS

...be of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose.

I think God has called us together to do something that we could never do alone.

Philippians 1:27 NCV

Live in a way that brings honor to the Good News of Christ...standing strong with one purpose, working together as one for the faith of the Good News.