

Seaside Church Sermon Notes

DISCIPLES: A Series on Following Jesus Together in the Local Church

1 - Connect in Community

SUMMARY

While the first step of a disciple is to receive the gospel (last week's message) the second step is to connect in community. If the first step is primarily vertical, having to do with our relationship with God. The second step is primarily horizontal, and has to do with our relationship with each other. Jesus called people to follow him individually, but then he placed them in a group to follow him together. This expression of community is the local church. The goal of this message is to outline three things we do together in community to demonstrate why it is an essential step and reality for any disciple of Jesus. We worship together, work together, and go to war together.

GROUP QUESTIONS *(For use with your family, roommates, Community or Bible Group, or individually)*

- Share something from the message or passage that surprised, encouraged, or troubled you.
- How have you experienced community in your life as a follower of Jesus? How important has that been to you?
- What were the three foundational truths briefly mentioned at the beginning of the message as we consider "community?" Why are these significant?
- Why is worshipping together so important for any follower of Jesus? How is this theme demonstrated throughout the story of the Bible?
- When you think of community, do you also think about working together? How is this truth established in the scriptures? (See Genesis 1.26-28; Genesis 12.1-3; Matthew 28.18-20) Share some stories from your life of working together with other believers in ministry. How did you experience community in those times that is different than having a meal or bible study?
- When the serpent wanted to deceive Eve, he came to her when she was alone? How important is it that we war together in community? Note Hebrews 3.12-14. Share stories of how fellow brothers and sisters in Christ have helped you not fall into sin in your discipleship journey.
- The topic of connecting in community is too large for one message. Share with your group aspects of community that Pastor Rob didn't include in the message. What else is important to consider?

PRAYER POINT

Are you connecting in community with others? Do you at least have 2-3 brothers/sisters in Christ you can journey with? What is keeping you from connecting in community if this is a struggle? Take time to pray over these issues. Pray also for your community group, bible group, family, etc. Pray for Seaside Church that we would continue to grow in this area. If you've been trying to follow Jesus alone, talk about that and bring that to the light with your group.

FOR FAMILIES WITH KIDS

Your family is the first community your kids will be a part of. The church is modeled off those relationships. Talk with your kids about the importance of connecting with other believers beyond Sunday morning. Live this out with them by inviting another family over from Seaside. Share a meal together. Pray together. You could even have some of the adults or older children share their story on how they first received the gospel. After this experience, talk about it with your kids. Ask them what they thought and how they felt sharing this time together.

Email any questions to Pastor Rob, rob@seasidechurch.com.

Sermon Notes Cont.

RESOURCES

Life Together, Dietrich Bonhoeffer
The Gospel Centered Community, Robert Thune
Total Church, Timmis and Chester

Fall Events Primer

September- October 2018

New to Seaside Lunch | TODAY! September 16, 12:45-1:45p

If you are new to Seaside or haven't been to a New to Seaside lunch, this is a great first step in finding out more about our church and getting connected. We'll talk through our roots, what we do as a church and how you can get connected. This is a casual event and families/ kids are welcome.

Seaside Women's Conference | Fri., Sept. 21 (7-9p) – Sat., Sept. 22 (9a-3p)

Come and gather with the women of Seaside in a weekend of worship and community building as we explore Paul's teachings in Romans 12. Cost is \$25 and includes light snacks Friday evening, and continental breakfast and catered lunch on Saturday. **Register at the Connect Table TODAY!** Scholarships and assistance with childcare is available, email kristi@seasidechurch.com for more info. We hope to see you there!

Financial Peace Class | Thursdays, 6:30- 8p, Sept. 13- Nov. 8,

A 9-week class at the building that will show you step-by-step how to create a budget, pay off your debt, make wise spending decisions, and save for the future. Kevin Stigile is leading this class, utilizing material from Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University. Cost is \$100/ individual/couple however, Seaside will cover/ refund 50% of the cost if you complete all 9 weeks of the class (full need-based scholarships are available upon request). No childcare. Interested? Email kevin@seasidechurch.com and Kevin can answer your questions and get you registered.

Trick-or-Treat On Us | Wed. October 31, 5-7p

Serve our neighbors and friends with our biggest community service event of the year. Free food, carnival games, tons of candy, thumping bass and good ol' Halloween fun for all ages. There are many opportunities to serve at this event and we'll share more about those in October.