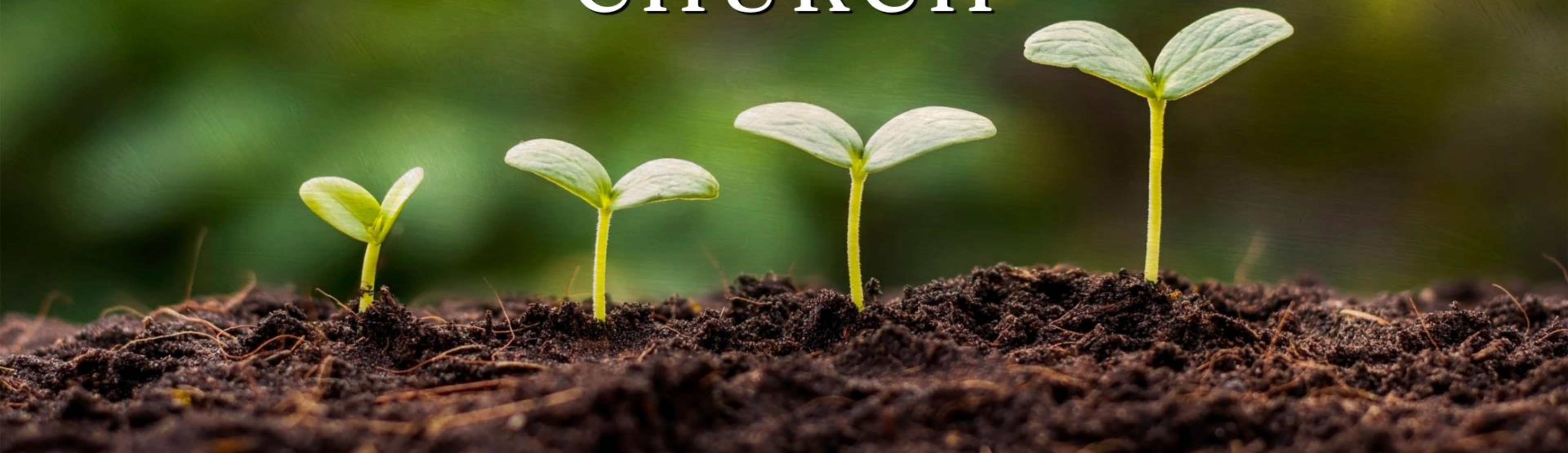


THE
MATURING
CHURCH



The Maturing Church...

Connects

1 Co. 12:3-5; Col. 1:1-3,19

The Maturing Church series

- *Grows, Serves, Evangelizes, Tithes, Gives, Loves*
- NOT a “checklist” of behaviors
- Inevitable by-products of people submitted to the Lord in all things
- Indicators of maturity to the degree these are or are not evident in our lives/Church Body

The Maturing Church ... *Connects*

Connect:

“To regularly and intentionally engage and build relationships of depth with others”

We connect with one another because of who God is and what He says about us!

1 Co. 12:3-5; Eph. 2:19-22

The Maturing Church ... *Connects*

We Connect in *“WE” and not “me”*

- Prayer 1 Thes. 1:2, 3:9-10, 5:25
- Care 1 Thes. 4:9-10, 18, 5:14
- Time 1 Thes. 2:11-12, 5:11
- Self-sacrifice 1 Thes. 2:8, 17-20

The Maturing Church ... *Connects*

We DISconnect in *“ME” and not “we”*

- Isolation: “I don’t know many people at church”
- Cliques: “I don’t engage people outside of my family/friend circle”
- Self-reliance: “I resist investment in others unless it’s convenient for me”

Eph. 4:15-16; Col. 1:1-3, 19

The Maturing Church ... *Connects*

This is NOT “*introversion*” vs “*extraversion*”

- *Why not?* Bc the motive/heart to Connect with others is an inevitable by-product of time with the Lord!
- As He has done for me, so He also calls me to do for and with others!

1 Co. 12:14-27; Acts 2:42-47

The Maturing Church ... *Connects*

How do we Connect here at Cornerstone?

- Names/Relationship/Time spent
 - Meals, hobbies/interests, projects, fun!
- Life Groups
 - Family activities
- Events
 - Service, Missions, Classes

The Maturing Church ... *Connects*

How do we Connect here at Cornerstone?

- *Foundations* (Next 4 Thursdays, 6:30-8)
- *Systematic Theology* (1st 3 Fridays, 5:30-7)
- *Parenting on Purpose* (Next 8 Wed's, 6:30-8)

- *Fall Festival* Sat. Oct. 10, 5:30-7:30
- *Fall Clean-up* Sat. Oct. 17, 8:30a-12:30

Prayer Challenges:

- 1. Spend time **THANKING** God for connection opportunities He has given you/us!
- 2. What are the blessings the Lord has for us when and as we **Connect** with others?
- 3. Where are you resistant to taking opportunities to **Connect** with the Body around you?