

# Christian Community

7.2.17 W.M.C.

# COMMUNITY

- “Community isn’t about where we live, but about our connection to one another, about the canvas of our common (shared) life and what we choose to paint on it.”
- “This is important because at WMC we believe not in religion but in relationship: a true and meaningful relationship with Father, through Jesus Christ and sealed by Holy Spirit.” Graeme Sellers

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- “Where love increases, the things of God must follow”
- “Holy Spirit wants to start of riot of love in and through US”
- “The condition of our community life so corresponds to our effectiveness in living out our mission, I believe the Lord would tell us to guard our community life at all costs.” Graeme Sellers



“People come to Bethel (church) for the presence of God but they stay for the relationships.”


Jeremy Riddle.

“When heaven comes close to earth it starts to look a lot like family”

Bill Johnson

- **Acts 2:41-47**. "So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and there were added that day about three thousand souls. And they were continually devoting themselves to the apostles teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. And everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. All those who had believed were together, and had all things in common; and they began selling their property and possessions, and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need. And day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved."

- 1 john 4 – the voice
- 7 My loved ones, let us devote ourselves to loving one another. Love comes straight from God, and everyone who loves is born of God and truly knows God. 8 Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love....19 We love because He has first loved us. 20 If someone claims, "I love God," but hates his brother or sister, then he is a liar. Anyone who does not love a brother or sister, whom he has seen, cannot possibly love God, whom he has never seen. 21 He gave us a clear command, that all who love God must also love their brothers and sisters.



But if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

1 John 1:7 NASB.

"Live in harmony with one another"

**Romans 12:16**

## Psalm 133

How wonderful, how beautiful,  
when brothers and sisters get along!  
It's like costly anointing oil  
flowing down head and beard,  
Flowing down Aaron's beard,  
flowing down the collar of his priestly robes.  
It's like the dew on Mount Hermon  
flowing down the slopes of Zion.  
Yes, that's where God commands the blessing,  
ordains eternal life.






Psalm 133 NIV


<sup>1</sup> How good and pleasant it is  
when God's people live together in unity!

(3b) **For there** the Lord bestows his  
blessing, even life forevermore




Loving people are blessed people. They are blessed of God, and therefore blessed indeed: There, where brethren dwell together in unity, the Lord commands the blessing, a complicated blessing, including all blessings. It is God's prerogative to command the blessing..., They are everlastingly blessed. The blessing which God commands on those that dwell in love is life for evermore; that is the blessing of blessings. ...Those that live in love and peace shall have the God of love and peace with them now, and they shall be with him shortly, with him forever, in the world of endless love and peace. How good then is it, and how pleasant!

Matthew Henry



Never shall we know the full power of the anointing till we are of one heart and of one spirit; never will the sacred dew of the Spirit descend in all its fullness till we are perfectly joined together in the same mind; never will the covenanted and commanded blessing come forth from the Lord our God till once again we shall have "one Lord, one faith, one baptism." Lord, lead us into this most precious spiritual unity, for thy Son's sake. Amen.

Charles Spurgeon



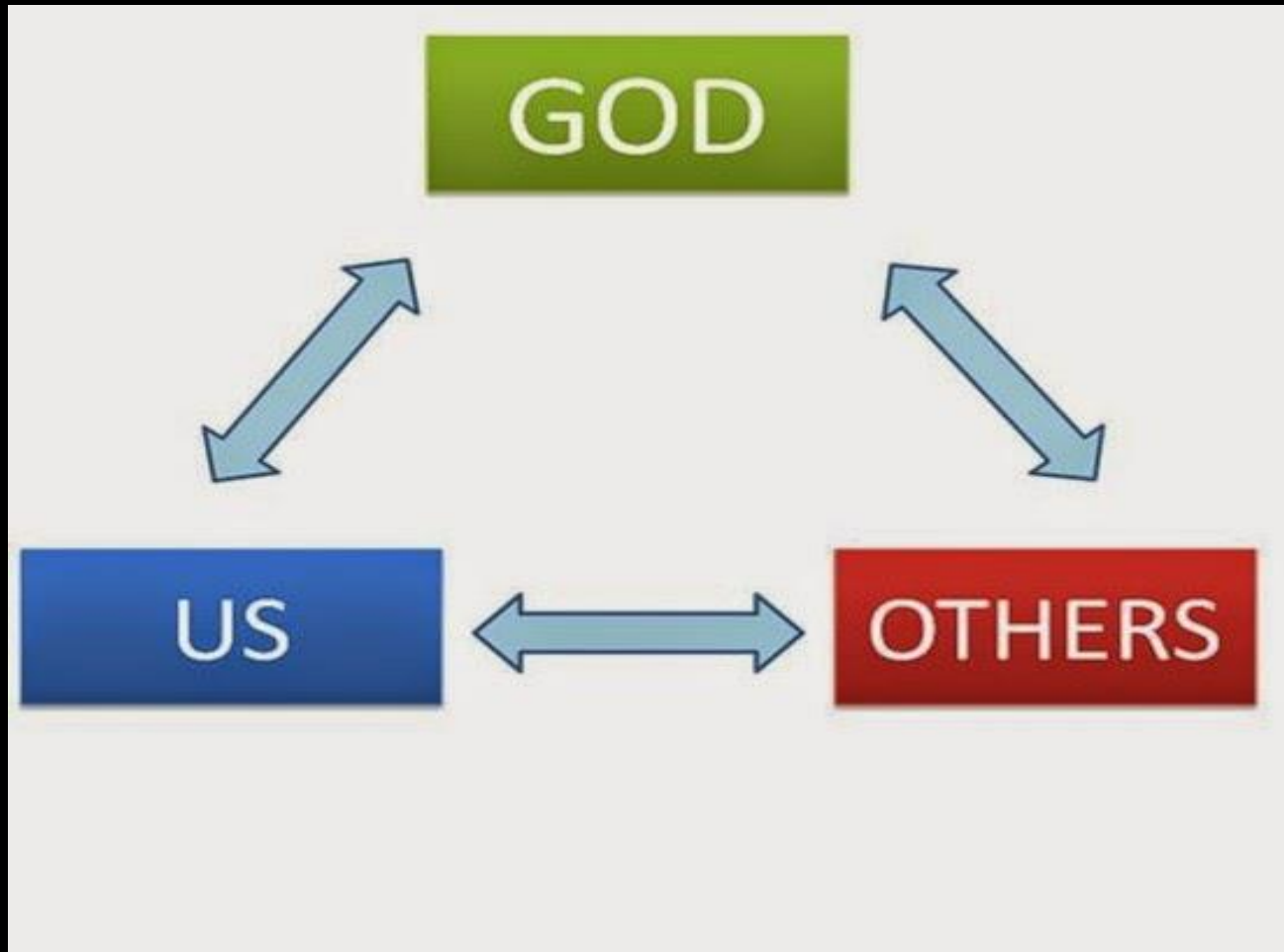
Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. This is the Scripture's praise of life together under the Word. But now we can rightly interpret the words "in Unity" and say, "for brethren to dwell together *through Christ*." For Christ alone is our unity. "He is our peace." Through him alone do we have access to one another, joy in one another and fellowship with one another.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer – Life together p. 39



Bill Hybels

...Whatever the capacity for human suffering, the church has a greater capacity for healing and wholeness."



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