

Doing Life Together

SERIES: "REACH OUT AND ASK SOMEONE"
PASTOR VIRGIL BROWN • SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2006

KEY VERSE

Each part gets its meaning from the body as a whole, not the other way around.
-Romans 12:4b (MSG)

[see also Genesis 2:18 (GW); Ephesians 2:19b (TLB)]

THREE REASONS GOD CREATED YOU FOR COMMUNITY:

1. Jesus created me to _____
of _____.

If we can serve others, we should serve. -Romans 12:7A (CEV)

Love means living the way God commanded us to live. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is this: Live a life of love. -2 John 1:6 (NCV)

- a. The best use of life is _____.
- b. The best expression of love is _____.
- c. The best time to love is _____.

So if you're serious about living this new resurrection life with Christ, act like it. Pursue the things over which Christ presides. -Colossians 3:1 (MSG)

[see also 1 Peter 4:10 (ESV); Matthew 10:42 (NLT)]

2. Jesus created me to _____ from _____.

Five Benefits of Godly Community:

1. Community with others: protects _____.

If one part of the body suffers, all the other parts suffer with it; if one part is praised, all the other parts share its happiness. -1 Corinthians 12:26 (TEV)

2. Community with others: provides _____.

Christ makes us one ... connected to each other. -Romans 12:5 (GW)

...serve one another in love. -Galatians 5:13b (NLT)

3. Community with others: produces _____.

As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love. -Ephesians 4:16b (NLT)

4. Community with others: promises _____.

It's better to have a partner than go it alone. Share the work, share the wealth. 10 And if one falls down, the other helps, But if there's no one to help, tough!
-Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 (MSG)

And all the believers lived in a wonderful harmony, holding everything in common. 45 They sold whatever they owned and pooled their resources so that each person's need was met.
-Acts 2:44 (MSG)

5. Community with others: Promotes _____.

But I am giving you a new command. You must love each other, just as I have loved you.
-John 13:34 (CEV)

3. God created me to connect with _____ in order to _____.

How does God expect me to 'connect with my culture'?

1. Be _____.

Then he said, "Go into the world. Go everywhere and announce the Message of God's good news to one and all. -Mark 16:15 (MSG)

2. Be _____.

John 13:35 (NLT)

Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.

3. Be an _____.

Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven. -Matthew 5:16 (NIV)

4. Be _____!

And I pray that as you share your faith with others it will grip their lives too, as they see the wealth of good things in you that come from Christ Jesus. -Philemon 1:6 (TLB)

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Share an example of what 'community' looks like to you.
2. Share a time when you, or your family, experienced true community.
3. What are some common reasons why more people don't experience true Biblical community?
4. Take time to pray for the needs of the people in your group.

ANSWER KEY:

Encouraging; Example; Empowered
spiritual growth; help in my times of need; a genuine life of love; culture; share Christ with them; Engaged;
meet the needs; others; Love; Time; Now; receive; others; me from isolation; me with a support network;

Lake Stevens Family Church • www.lakestevenschurch.com
Church Office: 526 91st Ave. NE • Suite B • Everett, WA, 98205 • 425-939-1425