



Teaching Notes: Ray Davis
May 20, 2012
Life – there's an app for that!

desert breeze community church

Ephesians 2:19-22 “Community”

It's what you were created for, it's what man lost but Christ restored, more than anything else God uses it to heal people, many think they have it but don't, nothing will give you greater joy & spiritual vitality like it, riches are best measured by it and our need for it with people and the God who made us is to the human spirit what food/air/water is to the human body. What is it?

The importance of Community:

- Without it you are spiritually homeless & lonely. V19 so then you are no longer strangers and aliens,
- Without it we are missing the very essence of reality. V22; Matt28:19.
- Without it you'll never have a deep experience of God's presence. V22; Matt18:19-20; Acts 2:42-47

The intensity of Community:

Paul uses three very important images about community.

- Fellow citizens v19 (Nation – We are God's people) Acceptance
- Members of household of God v19 (Family – We are God's Children) Security
- Stones in God's Temple vv21-22 (Temple - We are God's dwelling place) Significance

As a Christian you are called into deep community in a local Church family. How deep?

Level One: Acceptance (Belonging – Talking to people about God's Grace) Rom15:7

Level Two: Accountability (Becoming - Talking to people about personal stuff) Heb.3:13

Level Three: Authority (Beholding - Talking to people about God's Glory) 2Cor3:18; Heb10:24-25

The inspiration of Community:

- The Big Idea of the Bible is reconciliation with God and with one another—in that order. V20
- Jesus became homeless and lonely so that you could be brought into God's household never to be lonely again. Vv13, 16; Matt8:20, 27:46; Heb.13:5-6
- When what Jesus did on the Cross captivates your heart than you will make Him the Cornerstone of your life shaping every aspect of your life. V20 Ps118:22; Matt. 21:42; Acts 4:11



Growing

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- 1) With facebook, twitter, text messaging, email, etc. do you think we are more or less connected as a society? Explain. How would you define community with others and the God who created us? Why is community not a luxury but a necessity for our survival and why is it so difficult?
- 2) Read Eph. 2:19-22. What stands out to you? What does verse 19 say that we are no longer now that we have come to faith in Jesus Christ? How important is that new identity? What does it mean that without community we are missing the essence of reality (v22; Matt.28:19) and will never have a deep experience of God's presence (V22; Matt18:19-20; Acts 2:42-47)?
- 3) What are the three very important images Paul uses in showing us the intensity of community (vv19, 21-22)? How are each of these images more intense than the one before as it relates to our relationship with God and one another? How does your life square up?
- 4) What are the three levels of deep community that you are called into as a Christian in your local church? What are some barriers that could keep you from this deeper level of community? What are some next steps you could take in growing in community?
- 5) What are the three truths from the sermon notes that should inspire us to deeper levels of community? How can pride and fear keep you from community but how does Christ as our Cornerstone help us overcome pride & fear? Pray db is a place of belonging, becoming and beholding God's Glory.