



Teaching Notes: Daren Dirksen
Sept 9, 2012
Gospel in Life – Grace Changes
Everything!

desert breeze community church

Philippians 2:12-18

Community: The context for change.

You cannot grow deeply in the Lord or reach out effectively to the world, outside of gospel community.

1. Growing deeply in the LORD (V. 12-13)

- a. It is a community that responds to the LORD.
(v.12)

“with fear --- with trembling”

- b. It is a community given a deep desire and a vital energy to glorify the LORD. (v.13)

“to will --- to work”

2. reaching out to the World (V.14-18)

- a. It is a community that lets go of what suffocates them. (V. 14)

“without complaining --- without arguing”

Covetousness:

Control- I use it to manipulate because I desire to control others.

Approval- I do it because I desire approval of those I talk to.

Pleasure- Someone else is enjoying life. I am not.

Intelligence- I desire to show that I know more.

Reputation- I cut down others because I desire to feel important.

Recognition- I desire others to notice me.

Respect- They disrespected me so I will disrespect them.

Security- I am insecure without others gathered around me.

Success- Someone is succeeding and I am not.

- b. It is a community that clings to what fuels them.
(V.16-18)



Growing

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1. Share a favorite memory you have from a gospel community that you have been a part of.
2. Read Philippians 2:12-18. Do you feel that you are part of the community that is described in these verses? If not why not? What can you do to make this happen?
3. We will not grow deeply nor reach the world effectively apart from community. To what extent have you experienced this?
4. What does Paul tell us to cling to and to let go of as a community?
5. Let Go: In the sermon list of why we are to do all things without “grumbling” (complaining quietly behind their back) and “questioning” (arguing to their face), which idol on the list resonates with you and why? How does this community idolatry suffocate growth and reaching out effectively?
6. Cling to: According to the verses in Philippians, what should this new humanity that Christ has created cling to? (also read: 1 John 1:1-4, Phil. 2:5-11) How can you better do that as a group? Take time to pray for the community.