

Christian Community

Summer Series – Don't Miss This...

August 18th



Summer Series... Don't Miss This

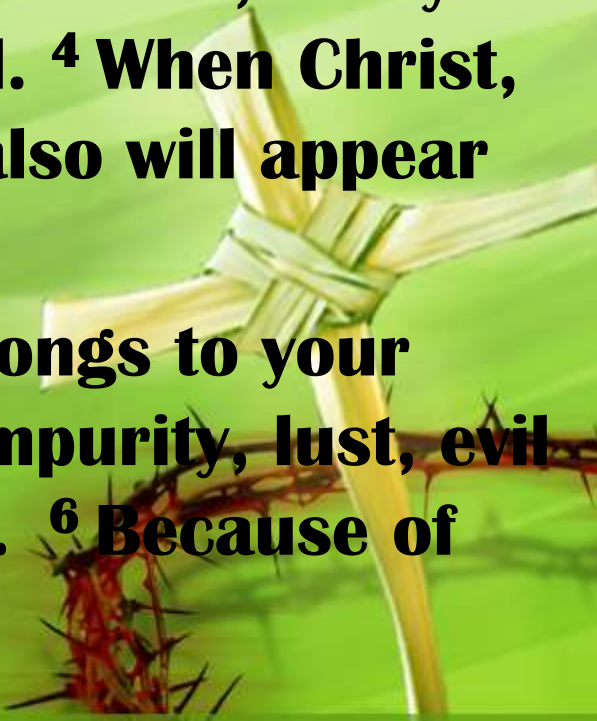
- **Things that God has laid on our hearts that didn't fit our preaching series**
- **Last few weeks...**
 - **An Uncomfortable Reality**
 - **Thoughts on Praise**
 - **Hearers Who Do**
 - **Embracing God's Ultimate Design**
- **Today... Christian Community**



Colossians 3:1-4


Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. ³ For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

⁵ Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. ⁶ Because of these, the wrath of God is coming.



Christian Community

⁷ You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. ⁸ But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. ⁹ Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. ¹¹ Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.



Christian Community

¹² Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

¹³ Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. ¹⁴ And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

¹⁵ Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.



Christian Community

¹⁶ Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.



What's the Big Deal About Community?

1. Example of Scripture – Historical Practice of God's People

- The Jewish Tradition
- Jesus
- Paul (Ephesus, Timothy, etc.)
- The NT church...
 - 59 “one anothers”
 - Acts 2...



Christian Community

Acts 2:42-47

42 And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. 43 And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. 44 And all who believed were together and had all things in common. 45 And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.



Christian Community

46 And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.



What's the Big Deal About Community?

1. Example of Scripture

2. Primary Source of Formation/Shaping

a. Big Group... Corporate worship

b. Small Group... Christian Community

- A place to be known
- As iron sharpens iron...
- Accountability (people who know you, love you and can call you on your junk)
- Help from those ahead of us (Titus)
- Helping those behind us



What's the Big Deal About Community?

1. Example of Scripture

2. Primary Source of Formation/Shaping

3. When Trials/Suffering Comes...

- **Where will you go when life throws you a curve ball?**
- **Good, sound Biblical advice/Pushing you toward Jesus**
- **Someone to pray with you and for you**
- **Someone to walk with you**



Road Blocks

- **A culture of individualists**
- **Don't want to be known**
- **Fear... But that makes me vulnerable!**
 - **Judgement, gossip, expose sinfulness, previous hurtful experience**
- **Season of life...**
- **Pride... I can do it myself – I don't need anyone else**
- **Time/Interest... Priority problem!**



Colossians 3:1-4

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. ³ For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.



Christian Community

Make it Happen!

- **Join a community group**
- **Seek out someone to meet with**
- **Make your spiritual formation your highest priority!**
- **Tell someone your plans today... Be a hearer who does!**
 - **Make yourself accountable to someone to make it happen**

