


Sermon Notes

Week of Sunday, January 15, 2017

Sermon Series: Why We Gather

Key Passage: Romans 12:9-13

Pastor - Mark Saunders

Q R S F K P W R R G M C S R Q
X V R **W H Y** E T E L L A S H X
L P R Q Y H K B R C H R E L L
Q R I M W **W** T E R W J G B I Q
K A T A U **E** M E V D E I P N K
V Y H A N A C T S B T V G D V
K L B **S U R R E N D E R** F J K
D Z R U C F M R O J Q F  B D

Why We Gather

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. 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. (Acts 2:42-47 ESV)

Christianity is a team sport. We need each other to become the Christ followers God desires us to be. That is why we gather.

12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit. (1 Corinthians 12:12-13 ESV)

What are the keys to true community?

A. Authenticity

9 Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.
(Romans 12:9 ESV)


B. Accountability

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C. Encouragement

9 Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.
(Romans 12:9 ESV)

24 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. (Hebrews 10:24-25 ESV)

D. Heartfelt Care

10 Love one another with **brotherly affection**. Outdo one another in showing honor. (Romans 12:10 ESV)

E. Preferential Treatment

10 Love one another with brotherly affection. **Outdo one another in showing honor**. (Romans 12:10 ESV)

F. Spirit-led Service

11 Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.
(Romans 12:11 ESV)

G. Long Haul Friendship

12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.
(Romans 12:12 ESV)

H. Acceptance

13 Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.
(Romans 12:13 ESV)

1 We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. 2 Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up. (Romans 15:1-2)

