



COMMUNITY

September 27, 2020

The COMMUNITY Mark:

engage in deeper community with a small group that has transforming, loving, transparent relationships.

1 Corinthians 3:1-16

But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ² I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, ³ for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way? ⁴ For when one says, "I follow Paul," and another, "I follow Apollos," are you not being merely human?

⁵ What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶ I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷ So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸ He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor.

⁹ For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building. ¹⁰ According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it. Let each one take care how he builds upon it. ¹¹ For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

¹² Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw— ¹³ each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. ¹⁴ If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. ¹⁵ If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.

¹⁶ Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? ¹⁷ If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.

Reflection Questions

How would you describe your spiritual journey to others, using human life stages (infant, toddler, child, teenager, young adult, adult)? What factors play into this description? What would need to change to move you to greater maturity?

What is the danger or downside of putting people on pedestals? Have you ever done this before?

How have you been intentionally building community? What gold, silver, and precious stones have you been using? What wood, hay, or straw do you need to do away with?

Practices

Practice living a “one another” every day this week.

The “one anothers” are God’s commands and pathways for building healthy community in his body. Choose ONE “one another” to practice every day this week:

Be devoted to One Another	Romans 12:10
Accept One Another	Romans 15:7
Care for One Another	1 Corinthians 12:25
Bear burdens of One Another	Galatians 6:2
Forgive One Another	Ephesians 4:32
Encourage One Another	1 Thessalonians 5:11
Spur on One Another	Hebrews 10:24
Confess your sins to One Another	James 5:16
Pray for One Another	James 5:16
Serve One Another	1 Peter 4:10

Tell someone about your plan. Ask them to ask you about it at the end of the week. Share with them what you learned.

Hear somebody’s story.

This week ask someone to tell you their faith story. Maybe start with this question: “When did God first become real to you?” Listen to their story as deeply as you can. Then tell them what you appreciated about their story and what it meant to you.

Practice hospitality with strangers or mere acquaintances.

During COVID, you will have to get really creative about this if you are going to be health-conscious. Have a socially-distanced bonfire in your back yard. Send Skip the Dishes to a friend and eat the meal together over Zoom. Pick up some subs and have a tail-gate party in a parking lot.

Join a Home Group.

Our groups are still meeting during COVID, but in socially-distanced ways. It’s never too late to get involved. If you’re interested, send us an email: micah@thecrosspointchurch.ca.