

Alderwood Community Church
October 9, 2016

Live a Life in Community

A Church of Everyday Followers of Jesus – Part 2

Hebrews 10:24-25; Ephesians 4:1-16

(Page 1191/1211 and 1158/1175 in chair Bibles)

Our Mission: To live and lead others to live as everyday followers of Jesus.

Our Values: Live a life of Worship
Live a life in Community
Live a life of Service
Live a life of Influence

Live a life in Community

*“And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching.” **Hebrews 10:24-25***

Big Idea: We need each other to accomplish our mission.

What is community?

1. We were _____ for community.
(Genesis 1:27-28, 2:18; Acts 2:42-47, 4:23-31)

2. We need community for spiritual _____ and _____.
(Hebrews 10:24-25; Ephesians 4; Galatians 6:1-2; Hebrews 3:12-14)

3. _____ are designed for community.

Life Groups provide an intentional relational environment for belonging and mutual care.

Life Groups foster intentional accountable relationships that encourage spiritual growth.

Life Groups help identify and develop leaders in our church.

4. God designed community as _____ to fulfill His/our mission. (John 13:34-35; Matthew 5:16; John 17:20-21)

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” John 13:34-35

Sermon Questions:

1. What was your church experience when you were growing up? How has it shaped your understanding of “community”?

2. Read **Acts 2:42-47**. What characteristics of spiritual community do you see in the experience of these early believers?

3. The New Testament uses several “one another” commands to teach us how to live in community. Let’s unpack three of these.
- a. Read **Hebrews 10:24-25**. What are we told to do? What, practically, is involved in fulfilling these instructions?

Who do you know that needs encouragement? What specifically will you do this week to encourage them?

- b. Read **John 13:34-35**. What is the significance of the phrase, “...as I have loved you...”? What should that look like in your relationships?

Is there a relationship in your life where this is particularly difficult? How can your group pray for you?

- c. Read **Galatians 6:1-5**. What does it mean to “bear one another’s burdens” in this context? What warnings does Paul give as we practice this command?

Is there anyone in your life who needs help carrying their “burden”? What specifically will you do to help?

4. Read **Ephesians 4:11-16**. Based on this passage what is the problem with living the Christian life apart from the church?

In what ways do you need others? In what ways can you build others up?

What does it mean to “speak the truth in love”, as opposed to love without truth or truth without love?

5. What is one thing your group can pray with you about as you seek to obey what you’ve learned from this study?