

EPISODE 5: COMMUNITY

Illustration: the difference between a wedding vow/license and the relationship within the wedding. Both are important.

- Church membership talks about the commitment, community talks about what we actually do.
- The gospel makes community possible. It changes our hearts and gives us love and patience. Yet it is still messy and difficult- because we are messy and difficult!

Acts 2:42-47

- Shared faith in Christ. Doctrine and hope in Jesus
- Shared worship practices (prayer, doctrine, breaking bread)
- Shared life (fellowship)
- Shared possessions and needs. v. 44 all things in common,
- Shared sacrifice v. 45 selling things to meet needs.
- Shared space: homes v. 46
- Shared meals
- Shared mission.
- Committed to life together. Spending our lives together- worshipping, fellowshiping, serving, etc.

The church is a renewed community based on God's work and word.

- The words of that community: Household, family, army terms
- We learn to follow by living together. Paul. You have followed.... 2 Tim 4:10

This means that fundamentally following Jesus is a family/group activity. That everything else we do tends toward the family of faith.

- Service. Using gifts. Putting others first. Against consumerism in the church.
- Prayer, worship.

"One another" commands in the NT.

- The maturity and grace that God intends for us is grown and expressed in the church.
- See the infographic

More than Sundays.

- To become a member at FGC you are saying you want this. You have to pursue this.
- Sacrifice and time.
- Minimally: Attendance on Sunday and small group.
- You want others in your life and you want to be in the lives of others.