

Sermon Notes

Series: The Blueprint - The Church God is Building

SESSION 7

A CHURCH THAT BUILDS COMMUNITY

Northwest Church is ON MISSION with Jesus to see the lost saved and disciples made. This is our mission statement and the four words that help summarize HOW we accomplish our mission as a church family are: REACH, RESTORE, EQUIP and SEND. We have discussed what the church is and now we are looking at what the church does – and specifically what we do here at NWC. This week we are going to discuss how to build community with one another as we seek to accomplish the mission of Jesus.

OUR THEOLOGY FOR COMMUNITY

1. The Trinitarian nature of God (Genesis 1)
2. God created us for relationship (Genesis 1-2)
3. God created marriage and family (Genesis 2)
4. Our sin fractured this community (Genesis 3)
5. Jesus came to restore community with Him and one another (John 1:12-13)

OUR VISION FOR COMMUNITY

1. Jesus and the Disciples (Luke 6:12-16)
2. The Early Church

Acts 2:42-47 – They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer. Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe, and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common; and they began selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need. Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.

- They were intentional in community with one another – “devoted themselves”
- Learning together – “the apostles teaching”
- Real relationship with each other – “fellowship”
- Spending time with each other – “to the breaking of bread”
- Praying together – “and to prayer”

OUR HINDRANCES FOR COMMUNITY

1. Our Family History
2. Our Church History
3. Our Cultural Example
4. Our Personal Obstacles

OUR NEXT STEPS FOR COMMUNITY

1. ATTEND regular gatherings
2. BECOME a member at church
3. JOIN a group/class/ministry
4. PURSUE relationships with people from church
5. SERVE in a ministry at church

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do you feel that you have close community at Northwest Church? What does that look like?
2. Is there anything holding you back from developing community at Northwest Church? What steps can you take to build more and stronger community?