

Acts 5:42 *And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.*

Question: What would we do if the Lord gave us salvations at the same pace of the Book of Acts?

- The _____ of the mission led to the necessity of the community.

Hebrews 10:19-25 *Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 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.*

Common concerns about getting connected in this kind of community?

"In our experience, people are often enthusiastic about community until it impinges on their decision making." – *Total Church*, 45.

- What about "going deeper" with people?
- I don't know where to start.
- That's not realistic.
- I don't have any time for that kind of community. (AKA "It sounds like the church is trying to take up more of my week.")

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Sermon Notes

July 8, 2012
The Chapel on the Campus

Living Out the Mission

Review the Mission: to the world

- God's method for filling the earth with His glory: discipleship.
- Discipleship: the process of becoming like all of Christ.

1 John 2:4-6 *Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.*

The context for our mission is the community.

"The church is to be a light to the world. Jesus asks us to let that light "shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:16). Church that is a discrete set of responsibilities, juggled among other sets of responsibilities, can never carry the weight of Jesus' mandate. Only life that is infused and transformed by a communal identity can be lived "before men." It is this kind of life that can only be explained in a way that brings praise to the Father in heaven." – *Total Church*, 47.

Looking at Our God: Our call to community comes from the _____ of our creator.

- God has _____ existed in community.

John 17:20-23 *I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they*

also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.

- God _____ the first earthly community.

Genesis 2:18 *Then the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him."*

- We are created as _____ of God.

Genesis 1:26-27 *Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.*

- Christ—our model—is the _____ image of God.

Colossians 1:15 *He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.*

Looking at Our Savior: Jesus _____ chose to live His life in community.

- Jesus grew up as a part of the _____ community in his hometown.

Luke 4:16 *And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read.*

- Jesus never _____ the community from the mission.

Luke 19:10 *For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.*

- Jesus chose to live life with a smaller community for varying types of _____.

Luke 10:1 *After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go.*

Mark 3:12-14 *And he went up on the mountain and called to him those whom he desired, and they came to him. 14 And he appointed twelve (whom he also named apostles) so that they might be with him and he might send them out to preach.*

Matthew 17:1 *And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves.*

Looking at the Church

- Our early brothers and sisters took the mission and the community seriously.

Acts 2:42-47 *And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.*