

What Really Matters #5

October 28, 2007

“Community Is A Necessity...We Need Each Other”

Matthew 9:36-38 (NIV) ³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. ³⁸ Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

Acts 2:42-47 (NIV) ⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³ Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. ⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵ Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. ⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Romans 12:15 (NIV) Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.

In God's community it is vital that we:

1. _____ one another

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

1 Corinthians 13:3 (NLT) If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could boast about it; but if I didn't love others, I would be of no value whatsoever.

Galatians 5:6 (NLT) What is important is faith expressing itself in love.

• _____ minus love equals _____

How God defines love:

• Love is a _____

2 John 1:6 (NLT) Love means doing what God has commanded us, and he has commanded us to love one another.

• Love is a _____

1 Corinthians 14:1 (NLT) Let love be your highest goal.

• Love is a _____

1 John 3:16-18 (NIV) ¹⁶ This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. ¹⁷ If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? ¹⁸ Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.

• Love is a _____

1 John 4:16 (CEV) God is love. If we keep on loving others, we will stay one in our hearts with God, and he will stay one with us.

2. _____ one another

Galatians 5:13 (NIV) You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love.

2 Corinthians 4:5 (NIV) For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.

Mark 10:43,45 (NIV) ⁴³ Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant. . . ⁴⁵ For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

3. _____ one another

1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NIV) Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

Hebrews 10:24-25 (NLT) ²⁴ Think of ways to encourage one another to outbursts of love and good deeds. ²⁵ And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage and warn each other, especially now that the day of his coming back again is drawing near.

October memory verse: Romans 15:5 (NIV) May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus.