

Sermon Notes: How Do I Do Community?

1. <u>Nature</u> of community.
a. Community is more about who we <u>are</u> than what we <u>do</u> .
b. Community means we <u>belong</u> to God and to one another.
2. <u>Basis</u> of community.
3. <u>Barriers</u> to community.
a. " <u>Benign</u> " Impediments:
b. " <u>Malignant</u> " Impediments:
4. <u>Practices</u> of community.
a. <u>Spend</u> time with people.
b. Practically <u>live</u> <u>out</u> who God says you are.
c. Choose <u>grace</u> .

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Gospel Applications: How Do I Do Community?

- 1. What is community in your own words? Do you think of community more as something you *do* or more as something you *are*? Explain.
- 2. Where and how does our culture attempt to create community? What is the basis for entry/membership in some of those communities? What are some of the defining characteristics? How is this similar to and different from the kind of gospel community portrayed in the New Testament?
- 3. Think of the best community you've ever experienced. What was it about that experience that stands out to you? What attitudes, actions, etc., do you think contributed to the health of that community?
- 4. What are some things you've observed that have damaged or destroyed community? What attitudes, actions, etc., were harmful to community?
- 5. What are the top 2-3 things in your life that hinder Christian community? What's something you could do this week to address one or more of these hindrances?
- 6. Just in the past week, how did you practically live out the reality that you belong to a Christian community that depends on you?
- 7. Pull out the chart you made last week of all the things that make up your daily, weekly, and monthly routines. Identify your top 2-3 opportunities for adding a community component to your schedule without having to create an additional event. Who will you invite to join you?
- 8. Think of something that's making community difficult for you right now. How would our culture react to that situation or person? Now think about the gospel. What difference does it make that you're a sinner saved by grace and placed into a family of people who are also saved by grace?
- 9. What one thing will you immediately change in response to this message? How will you strive to create, support, and enjoy Christian community this week? What's your next step?
- 10. Love is active. What will you do to love your community today?