

Sunday Leftovers

Sermon Title: Sharing Our Story - Love

What's this message about?

Do you believe that Jesus provides the perfect example for human living? If Jesus did it, does that mean we should do it? If Jesus said it, does that mean that we should say it or do it? If your answer to all three questions is 'yes', then maybe it is time to ask yourself, "Why am I not doing this? What am I missing out on?"

Jesus chose to spend an extraordinary amount of his time during the most crucial and busiest time of his life and ministry with a small group of people. These men walked beside him from Galilee to Jerusalem. Even though things, at times, were difficult the fact that they were connected to each other made dealing with those trials and obstacles easier. Having a common purpose and respect for each other allowed them to become a support for one another.

None of us has Jesus as a small group leader, but we do have each other. While none of us can do for others what Jesus did for them, our combined effort might actually come close: Not because we're awesomely spiritual and know all the Bible verses, but because there's something about being together that invites Jesus to show up. Jesus promised that when we seek to be in community, he not only shows up, but we find ourselves growing in our faith and in our capacity to love each other.

Ultimately, being in community and seeking a common connection with others is what we believe will lead us to the good life: a group of people with whom we can Connect, Grow and Love. Is this missing in your life? Maybe it is time to take the first step toward finding that group.

Questions for discussion:

- *What do you think was the main point of Matt's message?*
- *What are some characteristics of true community?*
- *Read Hebrews 10:23-25: What is the writer of Hebrews trying to teach us about the benefits of and need for community?*
- *What might you do to help yourself and/or others to see the value of being in community?*

Do something about it:

If you are not in a group, take the first step by either doing some research into what is available (fits your timeframe and needs) or ask someone in a group. Don't let it end there. If you are not in a group find a way to either join one or create one. If Jesus felt it important enough to form one and be a part of one, shouldn't we also?

Digging deeper:

Psalm 133:1-3; Matthew 11:28-30; Acts 2:43-47; 2 Corinthians 13:11; Romans 12:4-5; 1 Corinthians 12:25-27; Hebrews 10:23-25; 1 John 4:11