

Renovate Community

January 17, 2021

Speaker

Pastor Sam Pack

Text to Read

Hebrew 10:24-25

Colossians 3:16

Message Recap

1. Community is Worth the Effort

- a. During the pandemic, many of us are in a holding pattern waiting for things to “go back to normal.” We don’t go backward, but we don’t go forward either.
- b. As we must “continually consider” the Person and Work of Jesus Christ (Heb 3:1) for our faith to grow, we must also “continually consider” one another (Heb 10:24) to grow.
- c. Stirring each other up often means more than encouraging each other. It means challenging and admonishing each other. (Col 3:16)
- d. Like the trees in the Redwood Forest, our roots should intertwine with one another so that we can grow stronger, to withstand the storms that come our way.

2. Community is NOT Optional

- a. If you are a follower of Christ, your presence and participation in a spiritual community should be on the top of your priority list.
- b. Throughout the Bible we see God emphasizing community and its vital importance for His people. (Gen 2:15-25, Matt 28:19, Matt 4:18-22)

3. What should we do now?

- a. Join a small group
- b. Reach out to others to join a/your group
- c. Pray for those who you think need community

God, who created us in His image, intentionally created human beings to be communal beings. He did that because God, Himself is a community (God, Son, & The Holy Spirit). We are not meant to do this on our own, and He knows we are better together than apart. Community is God’s way of telling us that Christ is still with us.

Summary: Ask someone to summarize the sermon and fill in any gaps with the Message Recap above

Icebreaker: Describe a time you were in a holding pattern in your faith, how did it feel? In retrospect, would you have done things differently? (Remember that waiting also can hold tremendous value in our spiritual life.)

Discussion Questions

1. Other than the pandemic, what prevents you or others from engaging in community?
 - a. What are some different underlying reasons/excuses church participation has decreased across the country (including 4Pointes)?
 - b. We are to “continually consider” living in community for our faith to grow. What are warning signs that you are living faith on your own vs in community? What practices can you put in place to be mindful to “continually consider?” your community around you?
 - c. Can you share a time when you experienced growth because of the community you were in?
 - d. Because Asian culture highly values “harmony”, “stirring up” or “admonishment” can feel wrong. How does our mindset need to change in order to embrace God’s command to “stir up one another” well? How often are you challenging and being challenged by your fellow brothers and sisters of faith?
 - e. How do we intertwine our roots with one another? Do you think that this is necessary for your spiritual growth and development? Why or why not?
2. How “optional” has getting plugged into the community been to you?
 - a. Assuming you want your relationship with Jesus to deepen, how will you prioritize the people in this small group?
 - b. What is one small step you can take toward deepening community in your life?
 - c. What does it look like for you to spur one another on toward love and good deeds? (Hebrews 10:24) What about the rest of the people at 4Pointes?
3. If this group is not your primary community (which is fine, maybe you have other friend groups that help fulfill your desire to be in community), what does this particular community mean to you?"
4. Take a look at Gal 6:1-6. We are all called to bear each other's burdens and share the load with our community.
 - a. How well do you restore sinning Christians, serve those carrying heavy burdens, or support our teachers and pastors of the church?
 - b. In Asian cultures, we shy away from burdening other people for various reasons. But a Christ-centered community does the exact opposite. How well are you sharing your walk with others? Are you being vulnerable in sharing your sins and struggles, your good, bad, and the ugly? What do you think it will take for you to be able to be vulnerable?
 - c. What are some areas that you’ve noticed that the community of 4Pointes could use some renovations? In what ways are you able to contribute?

Prayer Topics & Request	Announcements
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Communal Prayer Topics <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Pray for a great kick-off to a new Small Group season 2. Personal Prayer Topics <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Be open, willing, and vulnerable to share and listen 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Young Adults Town Hall Gathering <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Jan 30, @12pm-1:30pm, via Zoom 2. Digital Congregation <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Starting Feb 7, via Zoom 3. Volunteer Opportunities for Kids Pointe <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Please contact Pastor Sung-Ae at sungae@4pointes.org