

My Life in 2010 – Extraordinary Community

2.28.10

I. Introduction

- A. Acts 2:42 – They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.
- B. Koinonia - to share, to participate in a common cause or joint participation.

II. Independence

- A. We have a culture of “Self”.
- B. We strive to be financially, professionally, relationally, emotionally and spiritually independent.
- C. As Christians we should live by a different set of standards, God’s standards not societies.
- D. Matthew 18:20 – “For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them.”NIV
- E. God designed us to be Interdependent.

III. Social Isolation

- A. We used to have a “Front Porch” community. Neighbors would sit outside, visit, entertain and get to know one another.
- B. That started to deteriorate with the inventions of things that made our lives easier; air conditioners, televisions, attached garages, garage door openers, answering machines etc.

IV. Two Are Better Than One

- A. Ecclesiastes 4:9-11 – Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. 10 If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble. 11 Likewise, two people lying close together can keep each other warm. But how can one be warm alone? 12 A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken.
- B. On your own, you will not be the person God wants you to be.
- C. Proverbs 27:17 – As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend.

V. Four Crazy Friends

- A. Mark 2:1-5 – When Jesus returned to Capernaum several days later, the news spread quickly that he was back home. 2 Soon the house where he was staying was so packed with visitors that there was no more room, even outside the door. 3 While he was preaching God’s word to them, four men arrived carrying a paralyzed man on a mat. 4 They couldn’t bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, so they dug a hole through the roof above his head. Then they lowered the man on his mat, right down in front of Jesus.5 When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”
- B. Mark 2:12 – He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, “We have never seen anything like this!”
- C. Find four crazy friends who will not stop holding you up, speaking truth into your life and helping you stay accountable in God’s word.

VI. Conclusion

- A. Our Christianity was meant to be personal, but was never meant to be private.