

ADDITIONAL APPLICATIONS

- Who in your “neighborhood” can you be the church to today? What could you do this week to show someone the love that Jesus has shown you?
- What can you do to be someone who is constantly learning from Jesus? How can you avoid the pride of “having arrived” spiritually?
- Read Psalm 9:9-10 (MSG). Has God been a safe house to you? How? Has he been a sanctuary in bad times? How? How do you feel in God’s presence? Relaxed? Anxious? Have you ever regretted being in church?

PRAYER

- Thank God that He is our safe house from the storm and our sanctuary in bad times. Ask him to help you be a safe house to others.
- Ask God for His love to fill your heart so you too can learn to show that love to others, even to people with whom it feels so hard to love.
- Ask God to help you with the 5 practices of a disciple? Ask him to help you live out your call to be a fully devoted follower of Jesus in front of others.



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WEEK OF JULY 2 – COMMUNITY OF DISCIPLES SERIES: CHURCH OF HIS VISION

NOTES

WARM UP / CONNECT

- What is the difference between “Christian” and “Disciple”? Have you ever seen a Christian who is not a disciple or vice versa?
- Describe how you felt when someone showed you unexpected love? What made it special?
- What’s the best thing to have happened to you this week? What are you looking forward to happen soon?

WORD

"Let me give you a new command: Love one another. In the same way I loved you, you love one another. This is how everyone will recognize that you are my disciples—when they see the love you have for each other." **John 13:34-35 (MSG)**

The church of Jesus Christ is a community of “called-out” people, learning to love people in their neighborhood, as Jesus has loved them. This means that church is not what we do on Sunday morning at 10am but what we from Monday to Sunday outside of the church building. You know a good church if the building does not exist and the church continues. Here 5 practices of such a such for us to start imbibing:

1. CHRIST-LOVED COMMUNITY

“...that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what *is* the width and length and depth and height— to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.” **Eph 3:17-19**

What does it mean to be “rooted and grounded in love”? What else can we be rooted and grounded in? What practical steps can you take today to be more rooted in Christ love for you?

2. CHRIST-LEARNING COMMUNITY

“Come to Me, all *you* who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.” **Mat 11:28-29**

How can be ever-learning from Christ? What was the last thing you learnt recently from Jesus? How can we celebrate little progress we are making in Jesus?

3. LOVE-RULED COMMUNITY

““Therefore, as *the* elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also *must do*. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.” **Col 3:12-14**

How can we make love the rule by which we live? How can we put on love? What is the difference between rules we put on ourselves because of love and rules driven by fear?

4. AN ALL PEOPLE-LOVING COMMUNITY

“Later, Levi invited Jesus and His disciples to his home as dinner guests, along with many tax collectors and other disreputable sinners. (There were many people of this kind among Jesus' followers.) **Mar 2:15**

How can we love ALL people and not just people like us or people who like us? Why was Jesus able to draw people rejected and despised in his day? How can we do same.?

5. A SMALL-GROUPS COMMUNITY

““So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.” **Act 2:46-47**

How can our small group help us bring God's love to our neighborhood? What can we so God can add people to our group?