



COMMUNITY OF FAITH

COMMUNITY OF FAITH

WHAT IS COF ALL ABOUT?

“Every believer was faithfully devoted to following the teachings of the apostles. Their hearts were mutually linked to one another, sharing communion and coming together regularly for prayer.” Acts 2:42

Church is not an event you attend. It is a family you belong to.

THE CHURCH IS GOD’S HOME

“You’re no longer wandering exiles. This kingdom of faith is now your home country. You’re no longer strangers or outsiders. You belong here, with as much right to the name Christian as anyone. God is building a home. He’s using us all—irrespective of how we got here—in what he is building. He used the apostles and prophets for the foundation. Now he’s using you, fitting you in brick by brick, stone by stone, with Christ Jesus as the cornerstone that holds all the parts together. We see it taking shape day after day—a holy temple built by God, all of us built into it, a temple in which God is quite at home.” Ephesians 2:19-22

THE CHURCH IS GOD’S BODY

“All this energy issues from Christ: God raised him from death and set him on a throne in deep heaven, in charge of running the universe, everything from galaxies to governments, no name and no power exempt from his rule. And not just for the time being, but forever. He is in charge of it all, has the final word on everything. At the center of all this, Christ rules the church. The church, you see, is not peripheral to the world; the world is peripheral to the church. The church is Christ’s body, in which he speaks and acts, by which he fills everything with his presence.” Ephesians 1:20-23

“What this adds up to, then, is this: no more lies, no more pretense. Tell your neighbor the truth. In Christ’s body we’re all connected to each other, after all. When you lie to others, you end up lying to yourself.” Ephesians 4:25

“Just as there are many parts to our bodies, so it is with Christ’s Body. We are all parts of it, and it takes every one of us to make it complete, for we each have different work to do. So we belong to each other, and each of us needs all the others.” Romans 12:4-5

I cannot fulfill God’s purpose for my life by myself.

“They are not connected to Christ, the head of the body, but we are joined together in this body [the church] by his strong sinews and we grow only as we get our nourishment and strength from God.” Colossians 2:19

Psalm 90:

Lord, You have always been our refuge. Our ancestors made You their home *long ago*. Before mountains were born, before You fashioned the earth and filled it with life, from ages past to distant futures, You are *truly* God. You turn people back to dust, saying, “Go back *to the dust*, children of Adam.” For You a thousand years is like a day when it is over, a watch during the night; there is no difference to You. *Our youth gives way to old age, and then one day* our years come to an end with a sigh. We may journey through life for 70 years; some *may live and breathe* 80 years—if we are strong. Yet our time here is only toil and trouble; soon our days are gone, and we fly away. Teach us to number our days so that we may *truly live and* achieve wisdom. Let Your work *of love* be on display for all Your servants; let our children see Your majesty. And then let the *beauty and* grace of the Lord—our God—rest upon us and bring success to all we do; yes, bring success to all we do!

THE CHURCH IS GOD’S BRANCHES

“I am the Vine and you are the branches! If you stay connected to me and I am connected to you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.” John 15:5

When I join Christ’s church, I get connected to the exponential power of Jesus.

“Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.” Matthew 18:19-20

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self control.” Galatians 5:22-23

“I give you the name Peter, a stone. And this truth of who I am will be the bedrock foundation on which I will build my church, and the gates of hell will not be able to overpower it.” Matthew 16:18

He has told you, mortal one, what is good; And what does the LORD require of you But to do justice, to love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God? Micah 6:8