

Community: It's Compelling

Proclamation Life Groups; Ephesians 2:11-22; Week of Sunday, October 30, 2016; Steve Thiel

God's great love for us in Jesus Christ is the basis of our community as a church and results in relationships that are marked and characterized by forgiveness, love, diversity, and acceptance. This is radically different than the world and is gloriously beautiful.

I. Vision For a Supernatural Community – Read Ephesians 2:11-22

- A. Who are the two groups of people being described and in what ways are they different?
- B. How is their relationship described before Christ? How is it described after Christ?
- C. According to Ephesians 2:19-22, what is the result of God's work in people's lives?
- D. How is Eph. 3:8-12 helpful as you think about the church being a supernatural community?

II. Pictures of a Supernatural Community – Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

- A. How is this illustration helpful as you think of diversity and acceptance in the church?
- B. How is this illustration helpful as you think of your love and commitment to other believers?
- C. How would you like to grow in accepting and appreciating other members at Proclamation?

III. Beauty of a Supernatural Community – Read 1 John 4:7-11 and Romans 14:1-23

- A. Read 1 John 4:7-11 and 1 John 4:19-21
 1. How do we know what love is? How would you describe that love in your own words?
 2. What is the connection between loving God and loving your brother or sister in Christ?
 3. What are some practical steps that you can take to grow in loving people in our church?
- B. Read Romans 14:1-23 and Romans 15:5-7
 1. How would you describe the issue that is taking place in the church at Rome?
 2. According to Romans 14:4 and 15:7, why should we not judge fellow believers?
 3. By implication, why is it wrong to impose your preferences on other people?
 4. What convictions do you have that are personal preferences and not gospel essentials?