

A Compelling Community

Proclamation Life Groups; 1 Peter 3:8-9; Week of Sunday, May 13, 2018; Steve Thiel

Sermon Theme: God's love for us in the Lord Jesus Christ is the foundation of a supernatural community that results in relationships marked by unity, diversity, and love. The church is also marked by a desire for others to come to faith in Christ and is motivated by our calling to the supernatural reward of eternal life.

I. 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 faith in Christ?
- C. According to Ephesians 2:19-22, what is the result of God's work in people's lives?
- D. How is Ephesians 3:8-12 helpful in thinking about the church as a supernatural community?
- E. How is 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 a helpful illustration of diversity and unity in the church?
- F. How would you like to grow in accepting and appreciating other members at Proclamation?

II. Supernatural Calling – Read 1 Peter 3:8-12

- A. As you think of the qualities mentioned in 1 Peter 3:8, which areas do you think you or the church need to work on? What can believers do to develop the attitudes mentioned?
- B. How does Peter want Christians to respond to evil? What does he want them to avoid? What does he want them to do? In what ways can you think of responding to insult with blessing?
- C. In what way does the quotation from Psalm 34 (vv.10-12) summarize 1 Peter 2:11-3:12?
- D. How does an eternal perspective and entrusting yourself to God who judges justly enable a person to have godly relationships? How does it enable them to respond well to evil?
- E. How would you like to grow in clarity on the realities of heaven and hell and the courage to engage unbelievers on the gospel? What practical steps can you take in this regard?