



Week 10- How to Experience Authentic Community: Part 2

Quick Review:

- The COMMAND of Jesus
- The EXAMPLE of Jesus'
- The PRACTICE of the early church
- The HISTORY of the Church

Two big questions:

What is authentic _____?

How do you _____?

Romans 12:9-13

⁹ Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰ Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

Authentic community occurs when...

- The _____ you (v9)
- Meets real _____ (v10)
- For the right _____ (v11)
- In the right _____ (v12-13)

The real you:

- Not a _____ of yourself. (v9)
 - Authenticity – *“Let love be sincere.”*
 - Purity – *“Hate what is evil. Cling to what is good.”*

Meets real needs:

- Not _____ ones. (v10)
 - Devotion – *“Be devoted to one another in brotherly love.”*
 - Humility – *“Giving preference to one another in honor.”*

For the right reason:

- Not to _____ people. (v11)
 - Motive – *“Not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord.”*

- Method – “Genuine service to God is characterized by:
 - Diligence – excellence
 - Enthusiasm – passion

In the right way

- Not in our own _____ . Romans 12:12-13
 - Upward Focus – “*Rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer.*”
 - Outward Focus – “*Contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing*
(pursuing) *hospitality.*”

Why is authentic community so important to Jesus?

²⁰ “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹ that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, ²³ I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. John 17:20-23



Talk It Over:

Share a time when some friends (authentic community) met a real need in your life that helped you make it through a difficult or challenging time...

What do you think are some reasons that keep people from being the “real you, meeting real needs, for the right reasons in the right way” in their daily lives?

How much of a factor do you think busyness is in your life an other’s that prevents meeting real needs? What might is look like if your life, or others, slowed down?



Live It Out- B.I.O.

B = COME “BEFORE GOD” DAILY

Meet with Him personally through prayer and His word to enjoy His presence, receive His direction, and follow His will.

I = DO LIFE “IN COMMUNITY” WEEKLY

Structure your week to personally connect in safe relationships that provide love, support, transparency, challenge, and accountability.

O = BE “ON MISSION” 24/7

Cultivate a mindset to live out Jesus’ love for others through acts of sacrifice as well as service at home, work, play, and church.

COME BEFORE GOD

Have someone read Luke 13:10-17. As you consider this passage, what stands out from this passage? What lessons can we learn from Jesus about meeting real needs for the right reason in the right way?

DO LIFE IN COMMUNITY

What does it look like to “give preference to one another in honor” in your life and community?

BE ON MISSION

²⁰ “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹ that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, ²³ I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. John 17:20-23

What stands out to you about this passage? According to this passage, what is at stake in regards to community, unity, and the great commission?



Thinking Locally...

How does today's study apply to Heartland's mission to: "Love God, Love Others, Make Disciples?"

How can this study speak into the concept of your "praying, investing and inviting" to help Heartland be all that it can be for the Kingdom of God and our community?
