

3. **As the body of Christ, our community happens as we put on the CHARACTER of Christ.**



HOW THE CHURCH IS A BODY,
NOT A BUILDING

COMMITTED

Colossians 3:12-17

Sunday, September 29, 2019

As we lean into the Fall, we want to lean into one another. That's what our SOMA series is all about. SOMA is the Greek word for "body" and that's who we are: the body of Christ. This month we're considering all that that means. Today, we look at how being the body of Christ means that we're COMMITTED.

4. **As the body of Christ, our community is only possible as we look to the GOSPEL of Christ.**

4 truths about our community as the body of Christ:

1. **As the body of Christ we are called to an INTIMATE, COMMITTED, COUNTER-CULTURAL community.**

2. **As the body of Christ, our community is rooted in our shared IDENTITY in Christ.**

- CHOSEN
- HOLY
- BELOVED

NEXT WEEK:
Ephesians and Us
Ephesians 1:1-2

United

Discovering our unity in Christ | A study in Ephesians



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Growth Groups are the glue which holds our church together, the way we live out our "body life" together. Most groups have been on break for the summer but are resuming throughout the month of September. If you are not involved in a Growth Group, now is the time to jump in at gracecentralcoast.org.

This year, our aim is to see our Growth Groups embody together our 3-fold identity as followers of Jesus: Family, Servant, Missionary. To that end, we're framing our Growth Group interaction guide to help groups move in that direction.

Connecting Together

Be sure to take time to connect and share life as you come together. Ways to do this include sharing highs/lows from the week, summer highlights, talking about a "get to know you" question, having one member share their life story in 10 minutes or . . . ?

Digging into God's Word & the Message Together

1. Here at Grace Central Coast, we're committed to NOT asking, "How did you LIKE the message?," but rather, "How did you COME UNDER God's Word this week through the message?" So how did you? What was one personal takeaway from the message this week?
2. Read Colossians 3:12-17 together again as a group. Would you describe yourself as an optimist, a pessimist, an idealist or a realist? Given who you are, what is your reaction to the kind of community described in Colossians 3?

3. Why and how is the community described in Colossians 3:12-17 INTIMATE? Why and how is this community COMMITTED? Why and how is this community COUNTER-CULTURAL?
4. Why is this kind of community only possible as we remember that Jesus lived this way for us first in the Gospel? How does the Gospel give us hope and help as we strive to "put" on these character qualities?
5. **Your Growth Group as a Family:** Colossians 3:12-17 is such a great picture of what we long for Growth Groups to become. Not a stale, stiff academic discussion of the sermon, but a vibrant, intimate, warm community of people living life together. So how can you create this kind of community in your group? What's it take? What's involved? What's required from you beyond what was talked about in the message?
6. **Your Growth Group as a Servant/Missionary:** While the message this week really focused on our creating community together, how might this kind of community be used and leveraged to help other people find and follow Jesus?

Praying Together

Let's seek the Lord for the kind of community he calls us to. With Colossians 3 before us, let's pray that the Lord would help us to live this way with one another. Let's practice this kind of community by sharing and praying for one another.