

Life is Short. Be a Good Steward



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Therefore, you must,

1. Love Souls



The Youth Group is a Microcosm of the Church.



The Church is a group of people,



The Church is a group of people, created and loved by God



The Church is a group of people, created and loved by God tied by their relationship to God



The Church is a group of people, created and loved by God, tied by their relationship to God, originated by God but accepted individually



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The Church is a group of people, created and loved by God, tied by their relationship to God, originated by God but accepted individually, for the purpose of exhibiting the glory of God to mankind through faithful and joyful service.



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- 3. We need Care and Character.



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- 2. We need a Final Word.
- 3. We need Care and Character.
- 4. You must be truly born again.



Three Integral Components of the Church



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Three Integral Components of the Church

- 1. The church provides a place for you to be accountable.
- 2. The church provides a place for you to be on display.



Philippians 1:27, what does He want to see?

- That we are still active in the word
- Working together (common goals & identity)
- <u>In all circumstances</u>, lives lived worthy of the gospel
- Worthy of the gospel = striving together for the faith of the gospel
- See the gospel of Christ
 - Convictions, what are you living for, sense of morality
 - Growth in believers that includes spread to unbelievers
 - Will live without recognition
 - Verbally repeat the gospel
 - Obedience without legalism (willingly obeying Christ), so when you disobey there is a way back
 - If you merely follow "what we/they do/say", we follow Christ
 - Rescued from Wrath gives you a bond of gratitude
 - Accountability
 - Willing to share what you have
- Together, all knowing their part and working together worthy of and for the gospel
- Focus on the gospel, learning, working together no matter what



1 Thessalonians 1: 1-3, 6-10, what's on display?

- Receiving the Word in face of persecution with joy
- It is to be public when you put away your idols
- They follow God so much that THAT was what people were talking about them
- Known by their actions of worship and service together
- People sharing their identity with God together
- We are on display, and we want people to see that we are glad to talk about God
- Show the value of God's word by longing for, sacrificing for, and carefully listening to God's word. They do this with great joy
- Through verbal abuse, exclusion, lose jobs, bad things done to people you care about
 - 1. God's word was priceless and followed relentlessly
 - 2. Alive- noisy in their Christian living (more responsible, more love, more sacrifice, more hope, b/c you are following Christ)
 - 3. Always looking higher and always looking farther for what God will build. Hope of what God promises



Romans 15:5-7 what's on display?

- Welcoming
- One mind/voice
- Recognizing and strengthening weak links to unity
- Unity that includes all God brings to Himself, living together in way that God is glorified because all are looking to God to accomplish this unity



I Peter 2:9-12, what's on display?

- A priceless identity
- All those chosen are grateful to the one who called them and sing His praises
- This Godward gaze of praise and gratitude continues in the face of injustice, in a way that people want to know about God, because of your good responses/deeds
- Our foreignness is weirdly attractive



What do you think is likely to be seen or heard if people watched you as part of a group of believers? OR What do you see when YOU watch a body of believers in action?

- Perhaps, just healthy group of kids
- They would see you as future for this group of believers
- Who interacts with whom
- Look for purpose
- What we care about is what is on display



What should give us hope from II Corinthians 1:8-11 when we hear what God wants on display?

- That very real hardship does not leave without very real provision from one stronger than death
- The things that may seem overwhelming, don't mean that God doesn't care or not able to provide for us or accomplish His will through this
- The God who delivers
- Sure of salvation and THAT saving God would deliver
- There is something bigger than themselves or death itself guiding them (A quest for more)



What should give us hope from Galatians 2:20 when we hear what God wants on display?

- Our personal lives are not the focus so when it seems rough, there's something more
- No hope that lasts in the flesh (city of destruction) so goals/ life fixed in Christ celestial city
- I don't have to do it myself anymore
- You live for one who gave himself up for you and will never stop



What should give us hope from Ephesians 3:20 when we hear what God wants on display?

- One working to enable us to do more than we can imagine
- God's goal/task that seems beyond you does not have to overwhelm or be changed because He is able
- God wants His power on display and that is what is at work in you to accomplish His will
- That God can and will in/through you
- God is not merely helping You can accomplish what is impossible but helping you accomplish His impossible



What should give us hope from Philippians 4:12-13 when we hear what God wants on display?

- He gives strength is therefore confident (but not without hope)
- It works in every situation, it is flexible (poor or rich is not the focus- His strength focus and enablement when low discouraged/ hard time) or hungry
- That <u>all</u> that God puts in our lives will not stop us from being able to live on display for God and accomplish his will



What should give us hope from Colossians 1:29 when we hear what God wants on display?



Sum up the main idea of Ephesians 4:17-24.

- What you strive for changes to what God desires for your life
- Focus and learn here; NOT where you were focused
- Watch ignorance from ignoring God's word and will and the deadness of living by your own desires.
 Seek the life that comes from following what you learn of God
- Those outside of salvation/life from God are NUMB to things of God so nothing changes in your life when you hear God's word
- Great distinction between Christian and not
- What you are wearing needs to go- replaced by something new
- Those who are not saved do not see, hear, or understand things of God



How would you actually start living Ephesians 4:17-24?

- Be aware/ pay attention it's dangerous not to
- Source of motivation that is greater than your desires
- Active in looking to grow your love for God
- V.21 must look to be taught and held accountable (church)
- V.24 get cleanliness and power to change from God
- V.23 acknowledge all of God's "red lights"
- Take off (like a diet) what you desire
- But can't just focus here if devoted to holiness, you don't have time for sin
- We are to imitate Christ, focus on learning from Christ



What stands out to you from Ephesians 4:25-5:4?

- If V. 32 is not your focus, life, then living in pride because no other right response, if recipient of such great forgiveness and kindness
- V. 27 think about when the devil would have opportunities in the body standing in line
- V.30 there is something from the Spirit that prepares you for eternity with the Holy God – what are you doing with it?
- Perfect set of boundaries that line up with a gaze at Christ by the power of the Spirit
- V. 27,30 how will we use power of Spirit to stand against the devil (Eph. 6)?
- Tied to personal relationship with Christ 4:20, 5:2



What is required to start living like Ephesians 4:25-5:4? Where do you find it hardest to obey these commands?



What would need to happen in a church for you to have to be reminded of these commands and for you to look to God for the strength to obey them?



What does requiring us to carry out these commands at the end of Ephesians 4 add for what is to be on display in a church that perhaps we didn't think about before?



How does God get glory by displaying us working through very yucky situations with others requiring us to display these attitudes and actions and refraining from other ungodly attitudes and actions?



Can you find evidence of a God-ward gaze in Ephesians 4:17-5:4 required to obey these commands?



What would keep us from obeying the attitudes and actions we are told to display in Ephesians 4:17-5:4? What would be the alternative to the hope offered from God that we looked at in the past weeks? What other gaze or place to look would compete for Christ's place as Head of His people?



How would obeying Romans 12:1-3 help us to carry out Romans 12:9-21?



What motivates us to yield to God in the first part of Romans 12:1? Define and note the ones which would help us willingly yield to God in worship.



What stands out from I Corinthians 12:18-27?



Three Integral Components of the Church

- 1. The church provides a place for you to be accountable.
- 2. The church provides a place for you to be on display.
- 3. The church provides a place for you to be needed.



How/where do people usually serve inside a local church? How do they get in those places of service?



How is how/where/when people serve different from how service is described in I Corinthians 12:18-27?



How would it look for me to be different than the other parts and yet have the same care for all the parts—to be unified in ownership, care, and purpose with all the other parts?



Why are our gifts and differences the LAST PART of our discussion about the church instead of the first?



What did you hear in this video clip?



What should you focus on at youth group/try to do that would make youth group more pleasing to God IF youth group as a microcosm of the church seeks to lift up what is valued in these passages?

