

Series: Christian Community
"Building Christian Community"
Romans 12:3

Introduction

If there's one thing we should know very well, it's that the church is not a building; it's a body of related believers. The church is alive because we are connected to the head of the body, Jesus Christ. As the body of Christ, we are here to serve a living Christ.

1. Becoming a New Testament saint requires _____ and renewal.
2. As we begin to view life from God's point of view, we learn to _____ God and have faith in Him.
3. The more we grow in _____, the more consistently we are able to view life from God's perspective, which unleashes God's power to change us from the inside out.
4. _____ Jesus and receiving this His free gift of salvation by faith is what saves us.
5. Paul is writing about how our faith in Christ _____ once we receive salvation.
6. Our _____ with other Christians is the catalyst God uses to substantially transform our spiritual lives.
7. Building a solid Christian community begins with a _____ understanding of who we are.
8. According to Paul, when you receive Christ, you also become a _____ of Christ's body.
9. Christians are _____ to one another in the same way the organs of our bodies are related to each other.

10. Each organ needs the _____ and contribution of the other organs to fulfill its own unique function.
11. When an organ begins to function contradictory to its unique purpose, it affects the _____ body.
12. The first step to building a solid Christian community is to _____ who we are in the body of Christ and use our unique gifts to enhance the glory of God.

I. Accept Your Spiritual Gifts

13. Developing a lasting relationship takes _____.
14. Building a healthy relationship requires _____ contact with people.
15. Identify and accept that you are a _____ from God.
16. You are a "one of a kind" person to _____, and he has equipped you with unique spiritual gifts.
17. The church is not a _____; it is a body of related believers. The church is a community of people who belong to Christ.
18. When we repent of our sin and pride and take our place as a member of his Body, that decision unleashes God's _____ power in our life.
19. Throughout your Christian life, there is a direct correlation between your involvement with other Christians and your spiritual _____ and effectiveness.
20. To develop a profound relationship with Christ, you must accept and agree with Him that you are a _____ member of his Body with unique spiritual gifts.

21. You must also acknowledge that you need the other members in the body of Christ to be _____.

II. Develop Your Spiritual Gifts

22. Paul also says that we need to regularly _____ our spiritual gifts.

23. God has designed each of us to build up his body by working _____.

24. When we use our gifts to serve others, it becomes _____ to the whole world that we belong to Christ.

25. When you share with others your gifted areas, you build up the body of Christ in a powerful way. And You also experience a realization and satisfaction that _____ is working through you!

26. Paul seems to assume that our gifts emerge over time as we _____ some fundamental skills.

III. Share Your Gifts

27. Are you involved enough with some Christian friends that encouragement and affection between you is _____ and natural (12:10)?

28. We should be involved in Christian community enough to give and _____ the way Jesus loved his disciples.

29. This authentic kind of love causes us to grow spiritually and draws non-Christians to Christ, especially in a culture that doesn't know how to succeed in close _____.

30. The disciples purposefully followed Jesus' command to love one another through several "one another" imperatives. Here are some examples:

- Encourage one another
- Admonish one another
- Confess your faults to one another
- _____ one another
- Accept one another

Conclusion

31. Building a Christian Community requires us to learn how to love one another the way _____ loved his disciples.

32. Don't settle for being a church attender. Get involved and make some Christian _____.

And remember, it's essential to learn how to give and how to receive. Relationship is a two-way street. Over the next few weeks, we're going to examine what it means to be a part of a Christian community and take a look in-depth at several "one another" imperatives that help us achieve this goal.

ANSWERS

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|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Transformation | 19. Vitality |
| 2. Trust | 20. Valuable |
| 3. Faith | 21. Complete |
| 4. Choosing | 22. Exercise |
| 5. Grows | 23. Together |
| 6. Relationship | 24. Evident |
| 7. Healthy | 25. God |
| 8. Member | 26. Learn |
| 9. Related | 27. Normal |
| 10. Support | 28. Receive |
| 11. Whole | 29. Relationships |
| 12. Accept | 30. Forgive |
| 13. Time | 31. Jesus |
| 14. Personal | 32. friends |
| 15. Gift | |
| 16. God | |
| 17. Building | |
| 18. Transforming | |