

Won't You Be My Neighbor: What Real Community Looks Like
Pastor Dennis Rouse
September 1-2, 2018

MATTHEW 22:36-40 NIV

"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

MATTHEW 22:39-40 NIV

"And the second is like it: 'Love your NEIGHBOR as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

ROMANS 13:9 NIV

The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not covet," and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: "LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF."

GALATIANS 5:14 NLT

For the whole law can be summed up in this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

QUESTIONS I ASKED MYSELF:

1. Am I going to be a Christian who just goes to church on the weekends, or will I be a Christian who gathers outside the church in a biblical community?
2. Will I live a life without any accountability, or will I live a life where others are helping me to grow?
3. Will I share my life openly with others, or will I live a private life that won't allow others into my life?

PROVERBS 18:1 NKJ

A man who isolates himself seeks his own desire; he rages against all wise judgment.

WHAT DOES REAL COMMUNITY LOOK LIKE?

1. In real community, people are COMMITTED to EACH OTHER.
2. In real community, people are AUTHENTIC with EACH OTHER.

1 JOHN 1:5-7 NIV

This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

JAMES 5:16 MSG

Make this your common practice: Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you can live together whole and healed. The prayer of a person living right with God is something to be reckoned with.

3. In real community, people are SHARING with EACH OTHER.

ACTS 2:44-45 CEV

All the Lord's followers often met together, and they SHARED EVERYTHING THEY HAD. They would sell their property and possessions and give the money to whoever needed it.

4. In real community, people CARE FOR EACH OTHER.

PHILIPPIANS 2:1-4 CEV

Christ encourages you, and his love comforts you. God's Spirit unites you, and you are concerned for others. Now make me completely happy! Live in harmony by showing love for each other. Be united in what you think, as if you were only one person. Don't be jealous or

proud, but be humble and consider others more important than yourselves. CARE ABOUT THEM AS MUCH AS YOU CARE ABOUT YOURSELVES ...