

Here For It

Community (Week 2)

LifeNotes

TALK IT OVER

Main Idea

Compelling community is a gift for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Key Scriptures

And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. Colossians 1:18 NIV

The body without the head is dead.

Benefits of local church community:

- An environment for refinement and love.

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. Hebrews 10:24-25 NIV

- A place of powerful worship.

For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them. Matthew 18:20 NIV

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our “God is a consuming fire.” Hebrews 12:28-29 NIV

- A setting to serve.

So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up. Ephesians 4:11-12 NIV

- A witness to the world.

You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:14-16 NIV

Start talking.

- What are common negatives associated with the local church?
- How have we made it easier to like Jesus but separate him from the body of the local church?

Start thinking.

- Read Colossians 1:18. Why is the metaphor of the “head and body” used to describe the relationship between Jesus and the community of believers found in the local church?
- In what ways do the head and the body benefit from one another?

- Read Hebrews 10:24-25. What is an example of spurring one another on? How is this a necessary component of a health local church?
- Read Matthew 18:20. What is the promise when the local church gathers in community? Read Hebrews 12:28-29. What then is acceptable worship?
- Read Ephesians 4:11-12. What is the purpose of gifts given within the local community of faith?
- Read Matthew 5:14-16. What is an application for the community of faith in a local church?

Start sharing.

- Which of the four benefits of local church community resonate most naturally for you?
- How has the local church given you opportunities to do each of the four?
- If not, then what holds you back?
- What other benefits of local church community might there be?

Start doing.

- Lock in –
 - o Click [HERE](#) or visit harborchurch.life/next to get baptized if you haven’t.
 - o Click [HERE](#) or visit harborchurch.life/next to join a LifeGroup.
 - o Click [HERE](#) or visit harborchurch.life/dreamteam to serve as part of our Dream Team.
- Love well –
 - o Invite others to experience the gift of compelling community.
 - o Welcome people where they are, let love them enough not to let them stay there.
 - o Serve where there is a need and how you are gifted.

Closing prayer.

Jesus thank you for the gift of community found in the local church, your body. Help me to be all you created and called me to be in this local church where you have placed me. For you Kingdom and for your people.