

The Church - Small Group Discussion - May 31, 2020

INTRODUCTION: This message marks 11 weeks of shutdown in California—almost 3 full months since we all met together. Frustration is building. It seems like guidelines change every day. And now we see society breaking down around us. Are these things related? Is there hope? If so, where can it be found?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1) Name some things that society in general might see as hope for the future of humanity, things that will create better people. Could these ideas work? Why or why not?
- 2) Some people think humanity is naturally progressing, becoming better over centuries and generations. What do you think of this idea? Are there areas in which people have improved? Are there areas where we have gotten worse?

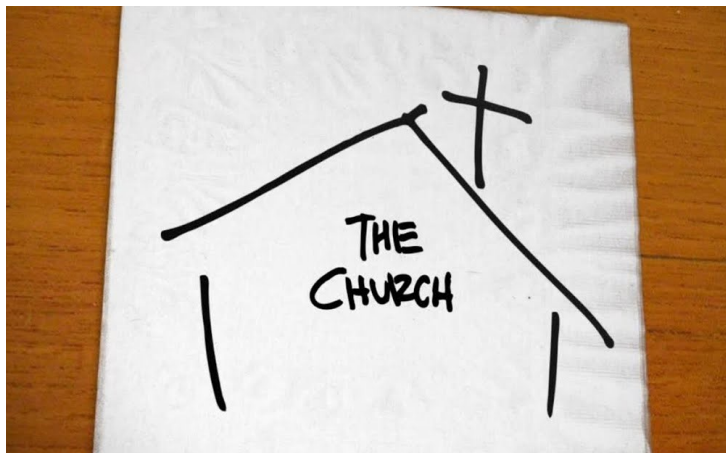
- 3) Share about a time in your life where you felt very connected to other believers. What contributed to that feeling?
- 4) Share about a time in your life when you grew spiritually. In what way did other believers help cause or encourage that growth?
- 5) In Acts 2:42-47, what aspects of that community speak to you the most? What aspects are missing in the modern church? What do we lose by missing those aspects?
- 6) Why is it so easy to be a spectator in church, without ever moving into active involvement? How can people be encouraged to plug into the community of God's people more effectively?

MOVING FORWARD:

Make a commitment to plug into the church community in a more effective way. Gather friends for Sunday morning "Church at Home." Join a small group or even host a small group. Be a more effective part of God's plan to renew this world.

A BETTER WAY OF THINKING:

2 Corinthians 13:5 - Examine yourselves to see if your faith is genuine. Test yourselves. Surely you know that Jesus Christ is among you; if not, you have failed the test of genuine faith.



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