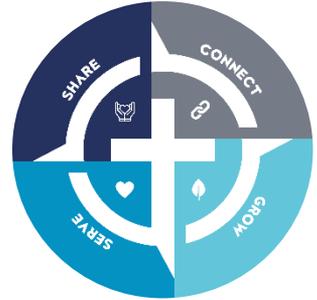


SERMON NOTES



Compass: Direction starts with Connection

January 8, 2023



Why is genuine connection with people so important?

CONNECT: FAITH & LIFE INTERSECT... find a place to be on life's journey together - where you can engage with others to find meaning, purpose, significance. "Iron sharpens iron, and one person sharpens another." Prov. 27:17

1. Connection is God's _____!

a) Connect with _____

- *Matthew 22:37 Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." 38 This is the first and greatest commandment.*
- *John 1: 41 The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus.*

b) Connect with _____

- *Matthew 22:39 And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."*
- *Genesis 2:18 The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."*

2. Connection creates _____!

a) Spirit of _____ removed by heart of _____

- *Romans 14:13 Therefore let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in the way of a brother or sister.*
- *Romans 15:1-2,7 We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. 2 Each of us should please our neighbors for their good, to build them up. ... 7 Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.*

b) Selfish _____ removed by humble _____.

- *Ephesians 4:2 Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.*

c) _____ solutions removed by _____ grace

- *Ephesians 4:31 Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. 32 Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.*

3. Connection _____ us.

a) Sharpens our _____.

- *Ephesians 4:11 So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, 12 to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up 13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. 15 Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. 16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.*

b) Sharpens our _____

- *1 Thessalonians 5:11 Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.*

- *Colossians 3:12 Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. 13 Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. 14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.*

c) Sharpens our _____

- *1 Corinthians 12:12 Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. 14 Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.*
- *1 Peter 2:4 As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— 5 you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ...9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.*

*Don’t miss the devotional emails this week to build on today’s message!
(Go to crosspointgtx.com and click on “Daily Devotions” – bottom left.)*

SERMON REFLECTIONS: Apply to My Life

The thought the Spirit is leading me to focus on is:

The change the Spirit is leading me to work on is:

The action the Spirit is prompting me to take is:

My prayers today are:

Someone I would like to bless with today's message:

DIGGING DEEPER: Apply to My Life

Scripture: *(Use one from the message this week)*

Observation: *(What stood out about this verse? What do you notice?)*

Application: *(How can you apply this verse in your life today? How can you live in light of this truth?)*

Prayer: *(Turn your thoughts into prayer. Ask the Lord to show you how to believe and live this verse. Pray for people and situations in your life.)*