

## HOW COMMUNITY HELPS US ABIDE

John 15.1-17

### COMMUNITY IS GOD'S IDEA

John 15.1-17

Going back to Genesis, we see that God created Adam and Eve out of the dust of the ground. He could have made it so that every human after that was made the same way. But instead, in wanting us to partake in the joy and beauty of relationship, He created marriage and family, that we would grow *together* in the Gospel, rather than just be isolated created beings.

**Your need for help is not a result of the fall,  
but the fact that you are human. You are not God.**

You make decisions not based on the facts, but your interpretation of the facts. And each of us have the potential to interpret the facts wrongly because of our spiritual blindness or distortions because of our sin, idols, and sin done to us.

### HOW WILL WE DO IT?

John 15.4-6, 11-13, 17 // 1 Corinthians 12.12-31 // Romans 12.4-8

In another analogy in the Word, as Jesus said the branches must be connected to the Vine, Paul said that individual body parts must be connected to the body. With Christ as the head, an individual body part *must be* connected to the body for it to be effective, alive, and useful.

### WE NEED EACH OTHER

**The language of the Gospel is primarily plural.**

There are countless Scriptures that not only encourage but command us to be humble, vulnerable, teachable, accountable, and seeking out challenge and correction from others.

**Our hearts are not private property, but communal property.  
Though our faith is personal, it is not private.**

-Kyle Strobel

Hebrews 3.13 // Philippians 1.27, 28 // Hebrews 10.24, 25

We have a perverse ability to feel good about things that are not good...We are blind to our own blindness. And the spiritually blind person walks around believing that no one has a more accurate view of themselves than they do...We need daily intervention...Each of us, whether pastors or congregants, needs the eyes of others in order to see ourselves with clarity and accuracy. And what is this daily ministry of intervention protecting us from? From becoming spiritually blinded to the point of the hardening of our hearts. **Our own hearts deceive us.**

**-Paul Tripp, Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands**

## NOTES:

### Upcoming Sermons:

Next week we will be looking at Prayer as one of the primary means of grace that God uses to help us grow. What is prayer and how are we as a church going to make deeper commitments to put prayer as a centerpiece of our plan to grow in 2017?

### This Week's Scripture to Memorize:

**Psalms 27:4,8**

<sup>4</sup> One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple. <sup>8</sup> You have said, "Seek my face." My heart says to you, "Your face, Lord, do I seek."

## ARE YOU NEW HERE?

### WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION CHURCH!

We'd LOVE for you to fill out the **Connection Card** on your seat to let us know you were here today. You can drop it in the offering during service or take it to one of our teammates at the **Connection Booth** outside - we'd love to give you some welcome information. Feel free to grab some food or coffee out in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you'll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

### SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

If you've ever taken your child to one of our **Kids on Mission** classes, or enjoyed a cup of coffee after service, chances are there was a faithful servant behind each of those examples. Serving is one of the **most fun & rewarding ways we experience community** with our church family! **Fill out a connection card** to learn about the serving opportunities available today.

### COMMUNITY GROUPS

The best way to **get connected** in the church is by joining one of our **Community Groups!** You'll forge friendships, be encouraged, and take the sermon deeper into your heart every week. **Sign up for a Group** on a **Connection Card** or visit the **Connection Booth**. You won't regret it!

### GIVING

**Gospel-centered generosity** is motivated by a heart of thankfulness because of the sacrificial love God has already shown us. If you call **Life Mission** your home, you can place your gift in the offering baskets during service, give online at [lifemissionchurch.com/give](http://lifemissionchurch.com/give) or mail a check to our PO Box. Thank you so much!

### KIDS ON MISSION

Our **Kids on Mission** ministry has classes for **newborns - 5th grade**. Visit our website to read more about the vision and plan we have for our kids, including Pastor Jobey's heart for the ministry and his walkthrough of our curriculum. For questions about KOM email **Katie McGinty** at [katie@lifemission.tv](mailto:katie@lifemission.tv)

### JUNIOR HIGH STUDENTS

Our **6th - 8th graders** worship with the adults and then head to the junior high room with their teacher and classmates for the rest of service.

### HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Our **9th - 12th graders** stay in the service because we believe that it is critical for them to not "graduate the faith" when they graduate school. Our **High School Ministry meets on Thursday Nights @7PM at Casey & Amy Barnes Home in San Marcos**. For directions and/or questions about our student ministries, contact **Casey Barnes** at [casey@lifemission.tv](mailto:casey@lifemission.tv).



## VISION: WHY DO WE EXIST?

We want to see God's glory known among the nations, to the least, last, and lost.

## MISSION: WHAT DO WE NEED TO DO?

We need to make disciples who make disciples locally and globally, who are saved, equipped, and sent by the Gospel.

## STRATEGY: HOW WILL WE DO IT?

By teaching people how to be rooted in the Gospel of God's glory through the Word of God, Prayer, and Gospel Community.

## CONTACT US:

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[Facebook.com/LifeMissionChurch](https://www.facebook.com/LifeMissionChurch)  
Twitter: @YourLifeMission  
[YouTube.com/LifeMissionTV](https://www.youtube.com/LifeMissionTV)

## COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Before discussion begins, is there anyone who can recite 1 Peter 2:9?

Read John 15. What stuck out to you in these verses or was the most impactful from the message on Sunday? \_\_\_\_\_

Community is another way we abide in the vine. Read **Hebrews 3:12-15**. Why do we need Community? \_\_\_\_\_

Both in your own abiding and at group read **Proverbs 27:5-6**, then answer questions below. Leaders, plan on leaving most of the time (20-30 minutes) for guys and gals to break up for real, authentic, sin-confessing, Gospel-centered Community. Once everyone has split up, ask the following remaining questions:

1. Who are you accountable to and truly knows you? Who frequently confronts your blind spots and sin? Does the relationship point you to Jesus and the Gospel and help you "put on the armor" for you when it's too heavy and you are too weak? If no one, why not? Not sure how? You lack desire? Where's the road block? \_\_\_\_\_

2. When was the last time you asked someone to speak into your life concerning sin and blind spots? When they do, what was your response? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Ask these people if they feel comfortable confronting you, or if they avoid it because they either fear you will become angry, defensive, or very hurt. \_\_\_\_\_

See below the seven ways that we minimize sin:

- Defending: Do you justify your actions, even using Scripture to do so?
- Faking: Do you put on a different face/image around people than in private?
- Hiding: Do you avoid relationships that call you out?
- Exaggerating: Do you make yourself sound better (or worse) than you are?
- Blaming: Do you bring up the past or others frequently. Do you say, "I'm sorry, but..."
- Downplaying: Do you say, "what's the big deal," or "it's not like I'm [something worse]."
- Comparing: Do you compare yourself to others, for better or worse?

Which of these are you most prone to? Be specific in sharing when you do these.

Do you have unrepentant, ongoing sin that you need to repent of right now? Don't live this way. Repent today, pick up your cross. Jesus forgives His enemies, He will forgive you.

Are you the same person that you are in public as in private? Are you amazed with the Gospel? Be honest of where you are at.

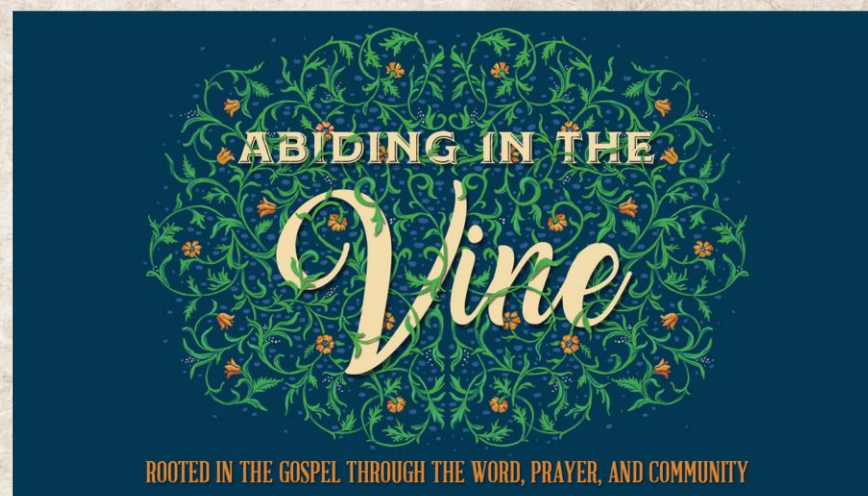
**Very important!** Leave enough time for this confession along with Gospel reminders through prayer using the P.R.A.Y. model from last week. Read **Romans 8:1** together inserting your name into the verse. Praise God, Preach His Gospel into your co-laborers hearts and minds. Repent of any sin, Ask for your sin idols to be smashed and replaced with Jesus, then Yield with Thanksgiving!



**LIFE MISSION**  
C H U R C H

**Pastor Jobey McGinty**  
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**Making Disciples Who Make Disciples Locally and Globally,  
Who are Saved, Equipped, and Sent by the Gospel.**



**WILL HOW COMMUNITY HELPS US ABIDE**

John 15.1-17 // January 15, 2016

**SUNDAYS AT 10AM**

Life Mission Church Meets at Classical Academy High School  
**207 E Pennsylvania Ave, Escondido 92025**

