



Living in Community

Shining the Light of Christ



What is Different about Us?

- That we have a moral code?
- That many of us vote a certain way?
- That we are pro-life, pro-marriage, pro-family?
- That we believe in God and that the Bible is truth?

What is Different about Us?

John 17:20-23 (Jesus' prayer for all believers)

20 "I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, 21 that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22 The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, 23 I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.

What is Different about Us?

John 13:34-35

34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. 35 **By this all people will know that you are my disciples**, if you have love for one another.”

What is Different about Us?

Philippians 1:27-28

27 Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you **that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel,** 28 and **not frightened in anything by your opponents.** This is **a clear sign to them** of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God.

The world is crying out for unity in a time of endless division.

Will they find it in the Church or will they need to look somewhere else?

Psalm 133:1-2

Behold, how good and pleasant it
is when brothers dwell in unity!

It is like the precious oil on the
head, running down on the
beard, on the beard of Aaron,

running down on the collar of his
robes!





-
- Location
 - O
 - G

Location

- Showing Up
- Proximity to one another
- Centered on the coal bed of Christ



Location

Acts 2:42-47

42 And they **devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.** 43 And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. 44 And **all who believed were together and had all things in common.** 45 And they were selling their possessions and belongings and **distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.** 46 And **day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes,** they received their food with glad and generous hearts, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And **the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.**



- 
- A photograph of a fire burning in a metal fire pit at night. The fire is bright orange and yellow, with flames rising from a pile of logs. The fire pit is made of dark metal and has several circular holes on its side. The background is dark, suggesting it is nighttime. A white circle is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing a list of three items: 'Location', 'Openness', and 'G'.
- Location
 - Openness
 - G

Openness

- How 'barky' are you?
- Are you willing to let the flame touch every part of you?
- Who are you accountable to?



Openness

Romans 12:1-3

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to **present your bodies as a living sacrifice**, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2 **Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.** 3 For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you **not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think**, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.



Openness

James 5:16

16 Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.



- 
- A photograph of a fire burning in a metal fire pit at night. The fire is bright orange and yellow, with flames rising from a pile of logs. The fire pit is made of dark metal and has several circular holes on its side. The background is dark, suggesting it is nighttime. A white circle is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing a list of three items: Location, Openness, and Grace. A horizontal line is positioned above the list.
- Location
 - Openness
 - Grace

Grace

- Listen with compassion
- Forgive often and forgive fully
- Ask the question, “how can I SERVE?”
- Pray for one another



Grace

Colossians 3:12-16

12 Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, 13 bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. 14 And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. 15 And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.



Grace

Galatians 6:2-5

2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. 3 For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. 4 But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. 5 For each will have to bear his own load.



Grace

- Measuring Our Service:
 - Was this effective?
 - Was this meaningful?
 - Was this truly helpful?



Grace

James 5:16

16 Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.



Location

- Showing Up
- Proximity to one another
- Centered on the coal bed of Christ

O

penness

- How 'barky' are you?
- Are you willing to let the flame touch every part of you?
- Who are you accountable to?

G

race

- Listen with compassion
- Forgive often and forgive fully
- Ask the question, "how can I SERVE?"
- Pray for one another