**Living Life Together**

**by Celebrating Every Person’s Place on the Team[[1]](#footnote-1)**

**1 Corinthians 3:12-15** - *Now if any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each man’s work will become evident; for the day will show it because it is to be revealed with fire, and the fire itself will test the quality of each man’s work. If any man’s work which he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward. If any man’s work is burned up, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.*

**Hebrews 6:10** - *For God is not unjust so as to forget your work and the love which you have shown toward His name, in having ministered and in still ministering to the saints.*

**1 Corinthians 4:3-5** - *But to me it is a very small thing that I may be examined by you, or by any human court; in fact, I do not even examine myself. For I am conscious of nothing against myself, yet I am not by this acquitted; but the one who examines me is the Lord. Therefore do not go on passing judgment before the time, but wait until the Lord comes who will both bring to light the things hidden in the darkness and disclose the motives of men’s hearts; and then each man’s praise will come to him from God.*

3 steps to making the church an authentic representation of Christ

**I. Decide Whose Team You’re On**

A. Declare your allegiance to the King

**Acts 9:36** - *there was a disciple named Tabitha…*

**Matthew 28:19-20** - *Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.*

**Romans 10:9-10** - *that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation…Whoever will call upon the name of the Lord will be saved.*

**1 John 5:13** - *These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.*

B. Focus your attention on pleasing Him

**Acts 9:34** - *Peter said to him, “Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you; get up and make your bed.” Immediately he got up.*

**1 Peter 4:11** - *Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

**II. Find a Need and Compassionately Meet It**

A. With deeds and compassion

**Acts 9:36** - *deeds of kindness and charity.*

**Colossians 1:10** - *so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;*

B. With abundance and faithfulness

**Acts 9:36** - *abounding with deeds of kindness and charity which she continually did.*

**2 Corinthians 9:8** - *And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed;*

C. In specific ways

**Acts 9:39** - *…all the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing all the tunics and garments that Dorcas used to make while she was with them.*

**Acts 2:45-47** - *and they began selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need. Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.*

**Acts 4:32-35** - *And the congregation of those who believed were of one heart and soul; and not one of them claimed that anything belonging to him was his own, but all things were common property to them. And with great power the apostles were giving testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and abundant grace was upon them all. For there was not a needy person among them, for all who were owners of land or houses would sell them and bring the proceeds of the sales and lay them at the apostles’ feet, and they would be distributed to each as any had need.*

**III. Let Ministry Opportunities Stretch You**

**Acts 9:42** - *It became known all over Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.*

1. Dr Steve Viars [↑](#footnote-ref-1)