

Easter Sunday Community

When they came to a place called The Skull, they nailed him to the cross. And the criminals were also crucified - one on his right and one on his left.

Luke 23:33 NLT

¹ But very early on Sunday morning the women went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. ² They found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. ³ So they went in, but they didn't find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴ As they stood there puzzled, two men suddenly appeared to them, clothed in dazzling robes. ⁵ The women were terrified and bowed with their faces to the ground. Then the men asked, "Why are you looking among the dead for someone who is alive? ⁶ He isn't here! He is risen from the dead! Remember what he told you back in Galilee, ⁷ that the Son of Man must be betrayed into the hands of sinful men and be crucified, and that he would rise again on the third day." ⁸ Then they remembered that he had said this. ⁹ So they rushed back from the tomb to tell his eleven disciples - and everyone else - what had happened. **Luke 24:1-9 NLT**

Community – 1. A group of people living in the same place or having a particular characteristic in common.

2. A feeling of fellowship with others, as a result of sharing common attitudes, interests, and goals.

Community is about relationships.

Healthy relationships are so important that God didn't just suggest we treat others well; He commanded it.

³⁴ But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees with his reply, they met together to question him again. ³⁵ One of them, an expert in religious law, tried to trap him with this question: ³⁶ "Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?" ³⁷ Jesus replied, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind." ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰ The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments."

Matthew 22:34-40 NLT

Jesus modeled transparent relationships that led to true community.

¹² This is my commandment: Love each other in the same way I have loved you. ¹³ There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵ I no longer call you slaves, because a master doesn't confide in his slaves. Now you are my friends, since I have told you everything the Father told me. **John 15:12-15**

NLT

5 THINGS THAT KEEP US FROM EXPERIENCING TRUE COMMUNITY.

- Fear of rejection or not being accepted.
- Afraid I may have to change.
- Afraid of what it might cost me.
- Don't want everyone knowing my business.
- We don't want accountability.

Jesus impacted the community where he lived and it spread to the whole world. Pastor Dewayne Video - <https://vimeo.com/330886157>

Jesus commands us to make an impact in the lives of the people that make up our community.

¹⁸ Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. ²⁰ Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Matthew 28:18-20 NLT

God desires that everyone of us be a part of His Church.

³ This is good and pleases God our Savior, ⁴ who wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth. ⁵ For, there is one God and one Mediator who can reconcile God and humanity - the man Christ Jesus. ⁶ He gave his life to purchase freedom for everyone... **1 Timothy 2:3-6 NLT**

Next Steps for me today...

- To put my faith in what Christ has done through the cross and through the power of the resurrection for me.
- To become a part of His Church and become a part of God's family/ community.