

# The Value of Community

## The World Needs More Loving Armpits

### 1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Romans 12:4-5

#### 20/20 Vision – Where We’ve Been

- The Importance of ‘On-Purpose’ Relationships
  - With \_\_\_\_\_
  - With \_\_\_\_\_
  - With \_\_\_\_\_
  - With \_\_\_\_\_

**Question:** Why don’t more people come to church?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

The church has a PR Problem: \_\_\_\_\_

#### The Need for Community

- It makes us \_\_\_\_\_
  - 1 Cor 12:17
- It makes us \_\_\_\_\_
  - 1 Cor 12: 21-22
- It makes us \_\_\_\_\_
  - 1 Cor 12:25-16
- It makes us \_\_\_\_\_
  - 1 Cor 12:12

**Then what’s the disconnect?** Short answer: \_\_\_\_\_

**Community can only happen when:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ – v21
- \_\_\_\_\_ – v25
- \_\_\_\_\_ – v27
- \_\_\_\_\_

– 1 Cor 13, Rom 12:9-13

## 2020 Vision of Community Prayer Guide

We envision a diverse community of people and generations *reflect* the heavenly community sharing eternal life and the glory of God. So we will build community *on purpose* in our personal relational networks and in shared small group and midsized communities.

### **Prayer Target: The Need for Community**

Read: 1 Corinthians 12:12

Pray: What are the abilities, gifts and talents that God has given me?

Do: Write down a list of these and mark which are being currently used at South Suburban.

Read: 1 Corinthians 12:14

Pray: God, I recognize at times that I like to be comfortable in my surroundings and the people I spend time with. Help me to recognize the value of people, though different from me, who love you like I do.

Do: Identify someone who is not like you and work on reaching out to them and building a relationship.

Read: 1 Corinthians 12:18-19

Pray: Father, help me not only recognize the value of other parts of the body but encourage me to engage in relationship with them. Don't let me remain in my comfort zone. Pull me out and help me to serve alongside the entire body instead of just a group of 'hands or eyes'.

Do: Look at the digital bulletin in your inbox this week and see if there are places you can connect with others in service.

Read: 1 Corinthians 12:26

Pray: Father, how can I be an encourager to other members of the body? Help me to connect with others in regular ways to lift them up.

Do: List the ways you are connect with people at South Suburban. Now, look for other ways to connect (Small Group, ABF, etc)

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### 1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Romans 12:4-5

20/20 Vision – Where We've Been

- The Importance of 'On-Purpose' Relationships
  - With Our Creator
  - With Our Family
  - With Our Mission
  - With Our Community

**Question:** Why don't more people come to church?

- Diversity has become a bad word
- They don't trust the 'institution'
- It's not worth their time

The Church has a PR Problem: Personal Relationships

### The Need for Community

- It makes us valuable
  - 1 Cor 12:17
- It makes us stronger
  - 1 Cor 12: 21-22
- It makes us descend into greatness
  - 1 Cor 12:25-16
- It makes us Christ
  - 1 Cor 12:12

**Then what's the disconnect?** Short answer: it's us

**Community can only happen when:**

- We quit trying to stay with only those who make us comfortable – v21
- We quit blaming others and start doing something about it – v25
- We start looking at others as Christ sees them – v27
- We realize that the gifts of the body are useless without love – 1 Cor 13, Romans 12:9-13