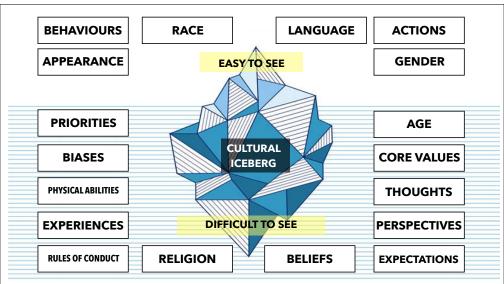
## A COMMUNITY STRENGTHENS FAITH WHEN UNITY IN CHRIST IS OUR COMMON GOAL



5



#### **DIFFERENCES**

7





"<sup>2</sup>Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. <sup>3</sup>Make every effort to **keep the unity** of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

<sup>4</sup>There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; <sup>5</sup>one Lord, one faith, one baptism; <sup>6</sup>one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all."

Eph 4:2-6

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9

Eph 4:2-6

## A COMMUNITY STRENGTHENS FAITH WHEN UNITY IN CHRIST IS OUR COMMON GOAL



1

## A COMMUNITY STRENGTHENS FAITH WHEN COMPANIONS SUPPORT AND BUILD YOU UP



11

"11 So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, 12 to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up 13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ."

Eph 4:11-13

# A COMMUNITY STRENGTHENS FAITH WHEN YOU MATURE AND DRAW NEAR IN COMPLETION TO CHRIST



"...being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to **completion** until the day of Christ Jesus."

**Philippians 1:6** 

13

"14 Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. 15 Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. 16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work."

Eph 4:14-16

#### BETTER THAN WHEN THEY FIRST ARRIVED

"17So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the **futility of their thinking**. <sup>18</sup> They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. <sup>19</sup> Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are full of greed.

Eph 4:17-24

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17

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Eph 4:17-24

"20 That, however, is not the way of life you learned
21 when you heard about Christ and were taught in him
in accordance with the **truth that is in Jesus**.
22 You were taught, with regard to your former way of
life, to **put off your old self**, which is being corrupted
by its deceitful desires; 23 to be made new in the
attitude of your minds; 24 and to **put on the new self**, **created to be like God in true righteousness and**holiness." **Eph 4:20-24** 

#### A COMMUNITY STRENGTHENS FAITH WHEN WE RE-COMMIT OURSELVES BACK TO GOD



21

"25 Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbour, for we are all members of one body. 26 "In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, 27 and do not give the devil a foothold. 28 Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need.

<sup>29</sup> Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen."

Eph 4:25-29

22

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23

Eph 4:25-29

### A COMMUNITY STRENGTHENS FAITH WHEN WE COMMUNICATE IN LOVE



"<sup>30</sup> And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. <sup>31</sup> Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. <sup>32</sup> Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

25

Eph 4:30-32

A COMMUNITY
STRENGTHENS FAITH
WHEN WE FOLLOW THE
COMMANDMENTS:
LOVE GOD, LOVE OTHERS



"The same Spirit who convicts my heart of sin, generates in me love for God, gives me new birth, provides my apprehension of the beauty of grace in the world, and seals my redemption until the coming of my Lord—this same Spirit who loves me so intimately and perfectly, I can cause to grieve."

- Bryan Chapell

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Eph 4:30-32

#### LOVE GOD LOVE OTHERS



"<sup>32</sup> If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup> And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same.

Luke 6:32-33

29

30

#### **COMMUNITY STRENGTHENS FAITH**

Common goal: unity in Christ

Companions supporting & building you up

Completion in maturity in Christ

Re-committing ourselves back to God

Communicating in love

Commandment: love God, love others

#### A COMMUNITY STRENGTHENS FAITH WHEN WE COME TOGETHER FOR COMMUNION





