

Covenant Life

- Our next Gathering is **TODAY** at 3pm including Childrens Ministry for children ages of 5-10. Come, bring a friend, and *pass the word to young families!*
- **Life in the Spirit seminar** is starting Oct 8th. Details attached. Pass the word to anyone interested in a deeper encounter and experience of the Holy Spirit!
- GodsDelight.org content: [Jubilee](#); Prayer Meeting: [audio](#), [summary](#), [transcript](#), & [teachings](#).
- Your ongoing financial support to the Community is sincerely appreciated. Please donate online [here](#) or mail your donations to P.O. Box 225008 Dallas, Tx 75222.

I offer that the Gospel today makes three points: 1) we are responsible to love one another through fraternal correction, 2) when we gather together in union with our Father, our prayers will be answered, and 3) when we gather together in union with our Father, He will be present to us. Each of these points could be the subject of many sharings, today I offer pondering the connection between the first and third points.

As God is a community of persons, so are we called into being community with Him and with one another. Jesus lived building community as He walked the earth and revealed God's infinite love for us. We are called to belonging, into community.

Allow me to share a few highlight points from a book by Eberhard Arnold entitled "Why We Live in Community":

- "We must live in Community because all life created by God exists in a communal order and works toward Community."
- "When working men and women voluntarily join hands to renounce everything that is self-willed, isolated, or private, their alliances become signposts to the ultimate unity of all people, which is found in God's love and in the power of his coming kingdom."
- "We must live in Community because the struggle of life against death demands united ranks of souls and bodies that can be mobilized wherever death threatens life."

Here are a few highlights from two Thomas Merton talks on this book:

- "Community is not built by man, it is built by God."
- "People come here to find a group of people who love one another...a community of love,"

- "Often very incompatible people are thrown together. Groups of people who would never have chosen to be together in the ordinary human way find themselves living together...building community with people that God has brought together."

Eberhard Arnold and Thomas Merton are expanding on the truths that Jesus spoke of in the Gospel today (and Ezekiel warned about in the [First Reading](#)). We ARE responsible for one another. This is a vital way that we love one another. Jesus also assured us of the promise that whenever we gather in community He is present to us! This reminds me of John's letter ([1 John 4:20-21](#)) charging us that we cannot love God without loving one another. We will all recall our founder, Bobbie Cavnar's, response to the question 'why community' with the words "to learn how to love one another".

As members of the Christian Community of God's Delight we have accepted this mission for five decades. We said Yes to giving our whole lives to God, to cooperating with what He is about, and to growing in holiness & love for one another. This is who we are and what we are about. Let us perseverer in running the race, God is not finished with us yet, and the Holy Spirit is leading many new families to us that are also seeking Him and community. Let us never tire of saying Yes.

Let us pray, "Jesus, I hear Your call to love my brothers and sisters. I receive Your promise to be present when we gather. I recommit to following You without hesitation. Send Your Holy Spirit anew into my life and empower my ability to always work to build Your Kingdom on earth. May my Yes, loving You and loving those I am in community with, be a public witness for You and draw many more to follow me into union with You."

God Bless,
David