

WHAT'S HOLDING US UP?

Week 2: Building Community

Matthew 22.36-40, Philippians 2.1-13

There are a few essentials that are holding us up, supporting us as a church. If they are not there, we are missing a critical part of who we are called to be as the people of God. These essentials can be found in Jesus' teachings in Matthew 22 and 28. At Beaver Dam, we call these our Four (4) Pillars.

The greatest commandment (Matthew 22.36-38): **LOVING GOD**

The 2nd greatest: **LOVING OTHERS**

"And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." Matthew 22.39-40

A new command from Jesus:

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." John 13.34-35

The evidence of loving others is **COMMUNITY**. (Acts 2.42-47)

Paul's Steps to Building a Better Community (Philippians 2.1-13)

1. Look **BEYOND YOURSELF**

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves... v3

2. Learn to see that **ALL PERSONS** have **VALUE**.

*In humility **value others** above yourselves...* v3

3. Take **AN INTEREST** in other people.

...not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. v4

4. Whenever possible, **MEET THEIR NEEDS**.

*In your relationships with one another, have the **same mindset as Christ Jesus**: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing **by taking the very nature of a servant**...* vv5-6

5. Building community is a blessing but **GETTING THERE IS HARD**. So **PERSEVERE** until we get there.

*Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—**continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling**...* v 12

6. Always remember, God is **WORKING IN YOU** and **IN OTHERS** to get us all there.

...for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose. v13

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What is God saying to me?

What am I going to do about it?

Love God, Love Others, Learn Jesus, DO SOMETHING!

Today's sermon can be found on our website beaverdambaptist.org