

Isolation, Rejection, and Community!

Jesus went off to a lonely place to pray, Jesus was rejected of men, a man of many sorrows, yet he came to seek and to save, love the unlovely, leave the 99, hung out with prostitutes, gluttons, and drunks.

HE EXPERIENCED OUR EMOTIONS WITH PEOPLE.

An Experience does not have to be a lifestyle

Change your “direction” to determine your final “destination”!

Acts 2:42-47...fellowship, discipleship, worship, evangelism

All corporately, collectively.

1. Withdraw from people, because people are difficult.

Hurt people, hurt people. Walking wounded. Perpetual victims.

2. we have been rejected so we reject others. Often pre-emptive, and protective

Child with abandonment, or attachment. Adult divorce, sibling rivalry.

3. share our life, our story, our resources for a common good / purpose.

Overflowing with life, love, joy, compassion, healing, hope.

How can we be pretty, even when life is ugly?

how to deal with people who can be pretty ugly, and how to avoid being pretty on the outside only to end up ugly on the inside.

We have curb appeal but our plumbing, elect, and foundation are substandard.

The Golden Rule (Matt 7:12) breeds, fosters, enables life and community.

These Acts ch 2 people were persecuted. They had reason to live in fear.

They were accused of being heretics, cultists, probably insecure about speaking out. They were redeemed! They were healed, they were loved supernaturally.

They had something to give! ..

2 Cor 4:16 --Outward vs Inward / 2 Cor 5:7 - Not by sight but by faith.

Outward signs?

Inward character / integrity? Belief, convictions

Acts 2:42 – They were devoted –

1. committed

2. not just when convenient

3. press on in spite of _____

a. The Israelites stayed together as a Nation after slavery in Egypt, and after the Holocaust

b. The church thrived under Rome's persecution and under communist rule

c. We as believers must desire and commit to fulfill our purpose in this age.

Adam felt isolated and rejected...

Elijah felt... Moses felt... Samuel felt it, David felt it, Joseph felt it...

Jonah, Noah, Abraham, Isaiah, Jerimiah, Daniel, (shad, mesh, abid)

John the Bap, Peter, Paul, Stephen... especially Jesus

Identify Isolation and rejection as a tool of destruction.

A distorted view of God leads to a distorted view of our life.

It can also be a launching pad for evangelism and reaching the lost.

We can build up the Body, the Army, The Flock, The Kingdom.

Spiritual Community breeds family vision and mission.