

April 19, 2020

Come Together, Part 1

“Why We Need Each Other... *Really*”

What was your favorite part about last Sunday’s on-line service?

What do you remember from the message?

What were some things that resonated with you?

Was there anything you wrestled with?

Have you ever said to yourself “I don’t need anybody”? What were the circumstances surrounding that statement?

In times past, if someone were to ask you why you need other people, how would you have answered them? Would your answer be any different today?

What might be some of *less obvious* reasons why we need other people?

How does being around other people help you grow?

Which helps you build more character: being around pleasant people, or being around difficult people? Why?

- What would you be like if you were only around pleasant people?
- Why would you be like if you were only around difficult people?
- Has anyone ever considered you to be a “difficult person?”

Did Jesus spend most of his time around pleasant people or difficult people?

Fill in the blanks: **“I will not [lie] to myself even when the [truth] makes me feel [bad] about myself.**

Who is the person most easy for you to deceive? [A: Yourself]

READ: Romans 12:3-5

“For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same

function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.” Romans 12:3–5 (NIV)

What are some evidences that demonstrate that nearly everyone has a tendency to think more highly of themselves than they ought?

Jim suggested that even people with inferiority complexes have a tendency to think more highly of themselves than they ought. How could that be true?

What did Jim suggest was the *primary* reason we need one another?

[A: Because we are incomplete without one another.]

READ: 1 Corinthians 12: 12-27

“The human body has many parts, but the many parts make up one whole body. So it is with the body of Christ. Some of us are Jews, some are Gentiles, some are slaves, and some are free. But we have all been baptized into one body by one Spirit, and we all share the same Spirit. Yes, the body has many different parts, not just one part. If the foot says, “I am not a part of the body because I am not a hand,” that does not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear says, “I am not part of the body because I am not an eye,” would that make it any less a part of the body? If the whole body were an eye, how would you hear? Or if your whole body were an ear, how would you smell anything? But our bodies have many parts, and God has put each part just where he wants it. How strange a body would be if it had only one part! Yes, there are many parts, but only one body. The eye can never say to the hand, “I don’t need you.” The head can’t say to the feet, “I don’t need you.” In fact, some parts of the body that seem weakest and least important are actually the most necessary. And the parts we regard as less honorable are those we clothe with the greatest care. So we carefully protect those parts that should not be seen, while the more honorable parts do not require this special care. So God has put the body together such that extra honor and care are given to those parts that have less dignity. This makes for harmony among the members, so that all the members care for each other. If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it, and if one part is honored, all the parts are glad. All of you together are Christ’s body, and each of you is a part of it.” 1 Corinthians 12:12–27 (NLT)

According to this verse, who might we need in our circle of fellowship more: those who are a lot like us, or those who are somewhat different from us?

Who are some people outside of your circle of fellowship you think you might benefit from being around more?