

"Christ-based, Love-motivated, Fearless Community!"

Three of our Father's desires... *That we would get Jesus into our skin!* "The predetermined destination for believers is transformation into the image of His dear Son!" ***That what has been on the outside will get in and flow from the inside!*** "greater works than these will you do..." ***To invade and inhabit our natural lives!*** "We are the temple of the Holy Spirit where God and Son come and meet with us!"

To be intimate, infused, and inhabited by God is our brand of Christianity...

To get to it and maintain it requires four basics: *Hunger for God and our own fulfillment! A voracious approach to the Word of God! The fullest engagement of the Holy Spirit we can muster! Help from our Christian friends!*

We need a community of people who understand our "commitment, values and goals" and will do everything possible to help us keep them! **We need to be a part of a Christ-based, love-motivated, fearless community!**

Christ-based Community! *To be a Christ-based Community we must know the difference between... Being Christ-centered and Christ-based!* Christ-centered merely has Him as a common denominator! When all is said and done we make up because that's how He would have it! Christ-based is having Him as the model!

Without anything being said we do what He would, help like He did, speak what He would, and stop only where He does! **As a Christ-based community we would befriend who He would, be a friend like He would be, and work with His friends like He does!**

Christ-based Community! Immediately think; nice, kind, speaks gracefully... " **Mk8.33** Get behind Me Satan, for you savor not the things of God! You are blinded under dark influences! **Confrontive Lk 7.40** "Simon, I have somewhat to say to you..." You have a bad attitude! **Instructive, corrective J8** "Woman where are your accusers?" **Protective, reconciling, encouraging! Mt5** "Follow Me and I will make you..." **Inclusive and futuristic! Mt 8.3** "I want to..." **helpful, willing! Mt11.4** "Tell John again the things you have seen and heard..." **Patiently and knowingly! J14.10** "The words are not mine, but My Father's..." **Jesus speaks accurately, properly, and relevantly to whatever the situation...**

To be a Christ-based Community we must know the difference between... Empowering and enabling! One points people to God, the other points them away! Coaching and coddling! One sees a competitive athlete the other a child in helmet and pads! Modeling and "blessing..." He leads in the new and living way we are to walk... not just tells...

To be a Christ-based Community we must know how and when to pray... When called upon... Pray, don't put it off! As touching... Engaging others in prayer for your friends. Intercession... Waking up in the night, pulling over in your car, finding a spot at work to pray with all your might, in the spirit and with knowledge!

As a friend, Jesus only speaks the words and does the works of God!

Love-motivated Community! "Do I understand why am I in this friendship? **Deut 13.6** "When a friend who is in your soul entices you to worship other gods, don't!" **To protect quality of life/reject evil! Job 2.11** "When his friends heard of the evil that came upon him, they came together; coordinating a time to come to mourn with and comfort him." **To comfort and support Pr17.17** "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity." **To give consistent, unconditional care! Pr27.6** "Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful." **To tell the truth! Pr27.9** Like sweet smells refresh the heart: so does the sweetness of a man's friend by hearty counsel. **To refresh with good counsel! Pr27.17** "As iron sharpens iron; so a man sharpens

the countenance of his friend." *To sharpen and brighten one another!* **J15.13** Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. *To be available and interact in the good and bad times!*

"What am I trying to get out of it?" Am I in it to give more than I receive? Do I care about them or do I want them to care about me?

"When we stand in heaven together will I be judged for what I did and said, or for my silence and inactivity?" *How much I love determines how far I am willing to go for their wholeness...*

Fearless-Community! Must be fearless! *Don't fear rejection/persecution...* **Lk12.4** "Do not fear what men can do to you... fear Him who has the power of your life and death!" *Don't fear judgment/misunderstanding...* **1J3.21** "As long as my heart doesn't condemn me I will fight for your wholeness..." *Don't worry about reciprocation!* **2Cor 12.15** "The more I love you the less I am loved!" *Don't fear criticism...* Why do you eat w/sinners? *Jesus!* Why are those lepers here? *Jesus!* Who let the lame and blind, lost and the broken, into this? *Jesus!* "What thanks do you have for loving and ministering to those who are like you... sinners do that!" *Jesus!* *Be courageous...* **Jude 23** "Pull them out of the fire..."

If you don't have those kind of relationships and networks... Hunger for them, to have good friends! Hunger to be a good friend!

"Must show yourself friendly, one who will stick closer than a brother!" **Pr18.24** "Meekly instructing those who oppose themselves!" **2Tim2.25** "Willing to serve and invest your life!" **Mt20.28**