

*“Your quality of life isn’t just dependent upon **what** you do, but **who** you do it with.”*

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 – **Two are better** than one, because they have a good return on their **labor**: if either of them falls down, one can **help** the other up. But pity anyone who falls and **has no one** to help them up.

Conversation Starters:

- 1.) Why does “**who**” we do life with warrant more of a focus than “**what**” life we’re living? *(Your connections establish your roots.)*
- 2.) What Biblical truth can we identify when it comes to getting a “good” return on our labor? *(Good returns from our time, energy, resources, and talents are directly related to **who** you’re in relationship with. Show me your friends and I’ll show you your future.)*
- 3.) What kind of returns are you getting from life? *(Carnal returns or spiritual returns?)*

Review / Reflect:

Ask your group members to share their favorite points from the sermon, what stood out to them, a phrase or moment from the sermon they related to the most, or question they have. If your members have a hard time remembering, share your notes and favorite points.

Discussion Questions:

Question 1: What does it mean to you to treat the church as an “additive” rather than a “mission?” *(Church sermons are viewed by many people as motivational tools and life hacks to help them on their life journey. Church is an opportunity to be on task to achieve the mission of God. Church is not about individuals. It’s about the mission Jesus has called us to – to seek and save what’s lost. Ananias and Sapphira wanted a return on their investment more than they wanted a return on the Kingdom. Both were killed for selfish pursuits) Acts Chapter 5*

How to Operate at the Maximum Efficiency God Desires:

- 1.) The Speed of **Agreement**. *(There is power in what you come into agreement with. If you’re stuck in first gear, you’re limited to going 25 mph). Amos 3:3 -Matthew 18:19*
 - When you agree, you can have **movement**, but you’ll never have **momentum**.
- 2.) The Speed of **Vision**. *(Get a vision and get to running.) Habakkuk 2:2, Proverbs 29:18*
- 3.) The Speed of **Unity**. *(Unity reflects our heart and attitude toward one another. Living in a fractured culture may be normal in the world, but it cannot be normal for Children of God.) Genesis 11:6 CJB, Acts 2:1*
 - Greek “Accord” – **Homothymadon** “To Rush Along” + “In Unity” - *(The speed of unity pleased God. Psalms 133:1. - (High competency and low chemistry will never work.)*

Together – The Speed of Unity (Part 2)

- Unity is not **uniformity**. It's **oneness** of purpose. *(It's not "what" we have in common, but "who" we have in common. A unified church glorifies Jesus. When Jesus is glorified, the world around us will sit up and take notice.)* **John 17:20-23**

How We Protect the Unity of God's Church and the Mission: (Unity + Longevity = Legacy.) **Ephesians 4:2-3 NIV**

- 1.) Give **honor** in all directions. *(Don't demand honor from your kids. Show them honor and they will rise up honorable.)*
 - I don't give honor because you are honorable. I give honor because **I am honorable**. *(Honor is incubated in a heart of humility.)* **Romans 12:10 NLT**
- 2.) **Forgive Quickly** Instead of **Holding Offense**. *(Don't fill the offense against you with accusation. God wants you to fill in the offense with love, mercy, and grace.)*
- 3.) Stop **gossip** instead of **spreading** it. *(Everything that's said should be true. But not everything that's true should be said.)* **Exodus 20:13** – *(You can also murder someone's reputation.)* **Proverbs 18:21, James 1:26 TPT** *(It's not only wrong to speak gossip, but it's also wrong to listen to it. Whatever you permit, you promote. If people gossip to you, they'll gossip about you.)*
 - Forgive others not because they **deserve forgiveness**, but because you **deserve peace**.
- 4.) **Celebrate** instead of **comparing**. *(It makes you feel inferior or superior and both dishonor God.)*
 - We won't be **distracted** by **comparison** if we are **captivated** by **purpose**. **2nd Corinthians 10:12 MSG**
 - We **resent God's goodness** in others' lives and **ignore God's blessing** in our own lives. **Psalms 139:13-14**

Overcoming Resentment:

- 1.) You Must **Reconcile** – 1 person needed, **YOU**. *(Forgiveness is not about keeping score, it's about losing count.)*
- 2.) You should **Restore** – 2 parties needed. *(Restorations are not always possible.)*
- 3.) You Don't Have to **Resolve**. *(Do step one before expecting step 3.)* **Colossians 3:13 MSG** *(It's unforgivable not to forgive.)*

Prayer Requests / Close in Prayer