

Love in Community

Study Questions

Getting Started

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this week's message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening or troubling? Explain.
2. Would you agree or disagree that all of us have fences? How might these fences be beneficial? Detrimental?
3. Read Hebrews 10:19-22. How does our relationship with Jesus Christ change us? How does it enable us to get outside our comfort zone?
4. Pastor shared the Gospel and how Jesus crashed the fence between us and God. How does my relationship with God through Jesus help me agape love others?
5. Have you ever experienced a person that had a significant influence upon you connecting in a local church? Share your story.
6. The church has been criticized for being filled with hypocrites. The truth is we all are hypocrites by hiding behind our fences. Why is that so easy to do?
7. We need to work at not building fences. Thinking of connecting with others, what are some things that you can do to be more real with others?
8. Sometime we have unrealistic expectations in relationships. What would be some healthy expectations when starting to build relationships?
9. Pastor recommended taking baby steps in building relationships with others. Why is this so important?
10. What are that we must take personal responsibility for building relationships in our church community?

Digging Deeper

11. Add one "Community" building baby step to your calendar for this next week.

Love in Community

Series: I Love My Church

Sunday April 3, 2016

Fences?

Know that Jesus Crashed the Fence

"Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water."
Hebrews 10:19–22 ESV

I Have A Giant Fence

"for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,"
Romans 3:23 ESV

My Fence Keeps Me From God

"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."
Romans 6:23 ESV

God knew I'd have a big fence before I even had a yard!

"but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."
Romans 5:8 ESV

I just admit I have a fence and let Jesus tear it down.

"because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved."
Romans 10:9–10 ESV

Jesus never denies a fence-crashing job ... ever

*“For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.””
Romans 10:13 ESV*

Allow Others into My Yard

*“not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but
encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day
drawing near.”
Hebrews 10:25 ESV*

Community Means We Do Not Build Fences

Community Means We Are Real

Enjoy Each Other

*“And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good
works,”
Hebrews 10:24 ESV*

Have Healthy Expectations — I can build great relationships
with some.

Realize Baby Steps are OK – Relationships are a process and
take time.

Take Some Ownership – Realize this is everyone’s job, not
everyone else’s job.