

## Biblical Community for the Glory of God

1 Peter 2:9-12

<sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. <sup>10</sup>Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

<sup>11</sup>Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. <sup>12</sup>Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

## Application Questions

1. From the sermon, what Biblical arguments were made for the necessity of community? Would you make any additional arguments for the necessity of community? Do you have any reservations about the necessity of community?
2. From the sermon, what "markers of Biblical community" did you find surprising or challenging? Would you add any additional "markers of Biblical community" to this list?
3. Have you ever felt a "disconnect" between *your experiences in community* and *your expectations and hopes for community*? Why?
4. How does the gospel impact the way that we approach community? How does the gospel create counter-cultural community? (i.e. consumerism and individualism)
5. Have you primarily viewed the church as a *place to serve* or a *place to be served*? (Remember that if we all serve, we will all be served)
6. What unique set of passions, gifts, and skills has God entrusted to you? How can you serve others in our church community who would benefit from what God has entrusted to you?
7. How does community enable us to "abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against [our] soul"?
8. What elements of community have been most effective for you in battling against sin and isolation?
9. How does Biblical community glorify God and lead to worship?