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DEUT 30:11-20; JOHN 17

LIFE 101 – Choose LIFE

Living in Community

Introduction:

I. WE NEED _____

A. WE ARE _____

George Gallup “Americans are among the loneliest people in the world.”

B. WE ARE _____

II. GOD’S _____ PLAN FOR _____

Genesis 1-2 ~ God’s plan for doing **LIFE 101**

Genesis 2:18

John Ortberg observes, “What is striking is that the Fall has not yet occurred. There is no sin, no disobedience, nothing to mar the relationship between God and man. The human being is in a state of perfect intimacy with God. Each word he and God speak is filled with closeness and joy; he walks with God in the garden in the cool of the day. He is known and loved to the core of his being by his omniscient, love-filled Creator. Yet the word God uses to describe him is “alone.” And God says this aloneness if “not good.”

Sometimes in church circles when people feel lonely, we will tell them not to expect too much from human relationships, that there is inside

every human being a God-shaped void that no other person can fill. That is true. But apparently, according to the writer of Genesis, God creates inside this man a kind of “human-shaped-void” that God Himself will not fill.

No substitute will fill this need in you for human relationship. Not money. Not achievement. Not busyness. Not books. Not even God Himself. Even though this man was in a state of sinless perfection, he was “alone.” And it was “not good.”ⁱ

The consequences of **being alone**...

A. _____

1 Peter 5:8

B. _____

C. _____

D. _____

John Ortberg notes, “Researchers found that the most isolated people were three times more likely to die than those with strong relational connections. People who had bad health habits (such as smoking, poor eating habits, obesity, or alcohol use) but strong social ties lived significantly longer than people who had great health habits but were isolated. In other words, it is better to eat Twinkies with good friends than to eat broccoli alone.”ⁱⁱ

III. GOD WIRED US FOR _____

A. _____ COMMUNITY

1. *CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP IS MODELED IN THE*

Genesis 1:26 ~ God dwells in a little community.

2. *CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP _____*
WITH CHRIST!

1 Corinthians 1:9 ~ Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful.

Jeremiah 2:13 ~

Two step problems:

1.

2.

B. _____ COMMUNITY

Galatians 6:2

1 John 4:20

1. A COMMON _____ - CHRIST

1 Corinthians 12:18-20

2. A COMMON _____ - MEMBER

1 Corinthians 12:27²⁷Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. NIV

IV. AN _____ TO COMMUNITY

John 17:20-21

Some "one anothers":

Romans 12:5

Romans 12:10

Romans 15:7

Romans 15:14

Ephesians 5:21

Galatians 5:13

Ephesians 4:2

1 Thessalonians 5:11

Conclusion:



ⁱ George Gallup Jr., *The People's Religion* (New York; MacMillan, 1989)

ⁱ Ortberg, *Everybody's Normal*, 31-32.

ⁱ Ortberg, *Everybody's Normal*, 33.

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