

COMMUNITY: A MESS WORTH MAKING

Acts 2:42-47 // February 12, 2023

UNSEALED ENVELOPES

We can have the Word and prayer, but without people, we will even use the Word and prayer to hide and serve our own desires and idols. It's harder to do that in community. Not impossible, but it is harder.

Hebrews 3:13

**True friendship calls you out of the darkness of personal privacy...
... from being a sealed envelope to being an open letter.**

-Paul Tripp, Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands

God has designed us as people who are not meant to be alone. We hold our cards close and desire to maintain our image and reputation among others, but the cross reminds us that we are *all* broken and in need. Hiding does us no good.

WHAT GOSPEL COMMUNITY IS NOT

- Gospel Community is *not* "just hanging out."
 - While hanging out, laughing, being social, enjoying sports and music and good food is a *very important* piece of life and building relationships, Gospel community seeks to go further, even building upon these many amazing and indispensable common graces.
- Gospel Community is not perfect.
 - It is dangerous for us to have unrealistic and idealistic expectations of what Gospel community needs to be. Yes, we *want* to have certain qualities, but we can have unrealistic expectations. Sanctification, is a long process that we all endure with one another.

In community where the Word of God, prayer, confession, sin, fellowship, and various personalities are thrown into a blender, it will get messy. But it is good for us to be with others who are not like us. We see *more* of Christ when we are with diverse parts of His body.

1 Corinthians 12:14-21

WHAT GOSPEL COMMUNITY IS

We need the ministry of one another to exhort each other every day. Real Gospel community is driven by the work of Christ in our hearts.

- Committed to the Word of God in a local body.
- Opening our homes and calendars for Gospel encouragement and prayer.
- Generous living and sacrificial care for each other.
- Weeping with those who weep and rejoicing with those who rejoice.
- Pointing each other to Jesus and fighting for the Gospel for each other.

NOTES:

Announcements:

- **Newcomer's Lunch** after church next Sunday, February 19. Please RSVP at <https://bit.ly/3GQylbb>.

This Week's Scripture to Memorize:

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

ARE YOU NEW HERE?

WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION!

We'd love for you to **fill out a Connection Card** so we can welcome you and answer any questions you may have. You can drop it in the offering basket during the service or take it to one of our teammates at the **Connection Booth** outside. Feel free to grab some coffee and snacks in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you'll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

WHAT ABOUT THE KIDS?

Our childrens' ministry, which we call **Kids on Mission**, has classes for **newborns - 5th grade**. We have a great team of volunteers who have all been screened with background checks for extra security. Each week your child will get to **worship** with their class, followed by an **age-appropriate lesson** that points them towards Jesus and helps root them in the Word of God.

Visit our website to read more about the vision of Kids on Mission and a walkthrough of our curriculum. If you have any questions, email **Amber Willis at amber@lifemission.tv**

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL

Our **6th - 8th graders** begin each Sunday by **worshipping with the adults** and then head to their classroom with their teacher and classmates for the rest of service. Visit our website to read more about our junior high ministry and a walkthrough of our curriculum.

Our **9th-12th graders stay in the service** with the adults because we believe that it is crucial for them to not "graduate the faith" when they graduate high school.

For more information about our Junior High & High School ministries, email **Tyler Willis at tyler@lifemission.tv**.

Contact Us

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CONNECT WITH LMC



Point your smart
phone camera at
the QR Code to
access a virtual
Connection Card

MAILING ADDRESS:

Life Mission Church
420 Twin Oaks Valley Rd., #908
San Marcos, CA 92079

COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Before group starts, who can share the **Memory Verse**?

Read **Acts 2.42-47**. What stands out in this passage and from the sermon on Sunday or the past few Sundays?

Preaching the Gospel to Yourself

How has Gospel community and relationships helped you to see more of Christ and grow in your love for Him? What does God's design of a local church family show you about God's love and design for you?

Your Life Mission

God has prepared good works for you to walk in, but you can't walk in them alone. You are a part of a larger body of people put in your life to help you towards your goal of glorifying God. One way people help you in that is through prayer. What in your life could use prayer for to pursue the work of God in your life? Ask them to pray for relationships in your life that you are hoping to be able to share the Gospel with.

End the evening in a time of prayer, praying through the theme of the night using the **P.R.A.Y.** model with your group. Pray for these people you have mentioned and for your heart and plan as you pursue them in love.

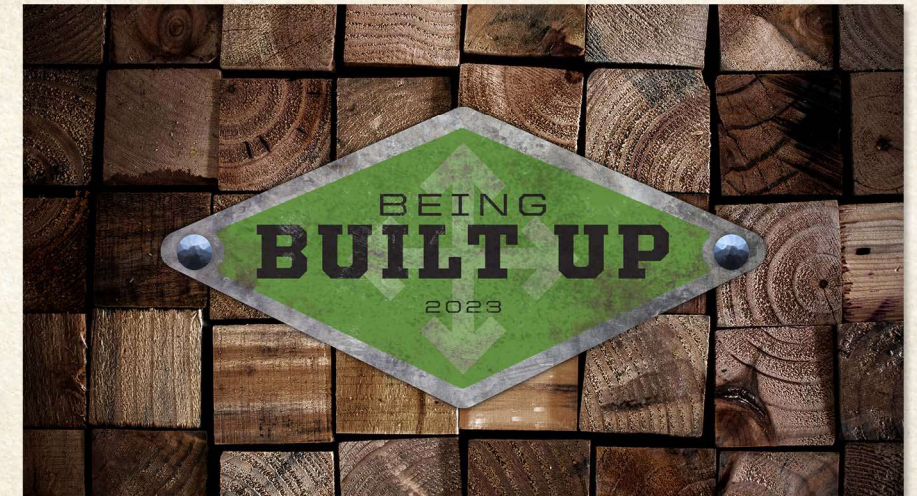
- **Preaching the Gospel to Yourself** (Matthew 6.9, 10)
 - Always begin your time of prayer focusing on God's goodness, who He is, and what He has done for us. Pray truths from this week's text.
- **Repent and Confess** (Matthew 6.12)
 - Real repentance begins where blame-shifting stops. Your circumstances don't need to change, your heart needs to change. Confess any particular sin that prevents you from walking out what God calls us to in the text, or any other particular sin you are wanting to fight. Ask Him to help you have strength to repent and run towards Him.
- **Ask for Provision** (Matthew 6.11-13)
 - Ask God for new perspective and for the things that you need. Once our hearts are fixed on Him, we can ask Him to help us with our needs. When your heart is begin filled with the Gospel first, your asking will be far more in line with God's desires and will. Ask Him to work in the relationships in your life that you are hoping to share God's love with.
- **Yield with Thanksgiving** (Matthew 6.10)
 - End your prayer by giving God thanks for His faithfulness and ask Him to help you trust and yield to His work and ways.



LIFE MISSION

CHURCH

MAKING DISCIPLES WHO MAKE DISCIPLES LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY,
WHO ARE SAVED, EQUIPPED, AND SENT BY THE GOSPEL.



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SUNDAYS AT 10AM

Life Mission Church Meets at Classical Academy High School
207 E Pennsylvania Ave, Escondido 92025

GET TO KNOW MORE ABOUT US ONLINE

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